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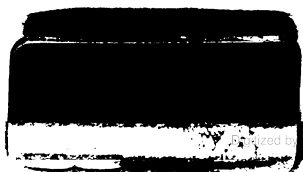
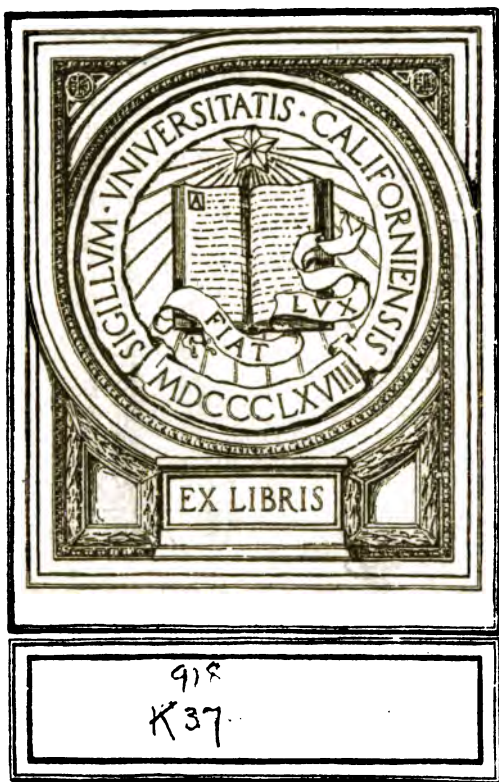
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# SOUTHERN POEMS







**The Riverside Literature Series**

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# **SOUTHERN POEMS**

**SELECTED, ARRANGED AND EDITED  
WITH BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES**

**BY**

**CHARLES W. KENT**

**PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH LITERATURE  
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**BOSTON NEW YORK CHICAGO  
HOUGHTON MIFFLIN COMPANY  
The Riverside Press Cambridge**

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TO MY  
FATHER

## PREFACE

THESE poems are selected from the wide range of Southern poetry, that the South's contribution to our national literature may be in part apprehended. For a long time the productions of Southern writers were so inaccessible that authors of text-books on American Literature were disposed to neglect them altogether; and even later the admission of any Southern author, save one or two of international fame, was somewhat grudging and apologetic. In recent years, especially since the publication of the *Library of Southern Literature*, by which a new perspective for American literature was afforded, fuller treatment has been accorded these Southern authors; but very few students<sup>1</sup> of American literature have yet comprehended clearly and fully that, for some periods of our literary history and in some significant and far-reaching movements, literature in the South has been the dominant and controlling factor.

These selections, however, have not been made to establish any cause or exemplify any theory, but partly to illustrate chronological development, and mainly to portray Southern life and sentiment in poems of individual literary merit. In giving preference to such poems as reveal characteristics of Southern climate, conditions, and life, the danger has not been escaped of presenting an occasional sentiment heated by the

<sup>1</sup> A notable exception is Dr. C. Alphonso Smith, in his *Amerikanische Literatur*, published by Weidmannsche Buchhandlung, Berlin, Germany.



passions of war or heightened by the presence of a dramatic crisis. It would be strange indeed if at that time no such sentiment were cherished or uttered : it would be even stranger to-day if we could not read these sentiments with the sympathy that belongs to their circumstances or the intellectual detachment that belongs to ours. As a nation we can recognize the literary merit of the *Battle Hymn of the Republic* and *Maryland, My Maryland*, even though as individuals we may not commend all the sentiments of either.

In choosing these poems free use has been made of, first, the *Library of Southern Literature*, edited by Charles W. Kent and others, published by the Martin & Hoyt Company, Atlanta, Georgia ; second, *Three Centuries of Southern Poetry*, edited by Carl Holliday, published by the Publishing House of the Methodist Church, South, Nashville, Tennessee ; third, *Songs of the South*, edited by Jennie Thornley Clarke, published by J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia. Acknowledgments to holders of copyright are made at appropriate points throughout the following pages.

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# SOUTHERN POEMS

## BACON'S EPITAPH

UNKNOWN

In 1814 the Massachusetts Historical Society published the *Burwell Papers*, so called because of the family in whose possession these papers had long remained. At the close of *Bacon's Proceedings* in these papers stands the following remarkable poem, entitled *Bacon's Epitaph, Made by his Man*, and presumably written soon after Bacon's death in 1676.

DEATH, why so cruel? What! No other way  
To manifest thy spleen, but thus to slay  
Our hopes of safety, liberty, our all,  
Which through thy tyranny with him<sup>1</sup> must fall  
To its late chaos? . . . . .  
. . . . . Now we must complain, 5  
Since thou, in him, hast more than thousand slain,  
Whose lives and safeties did so much depend  
On him their life, with him their lives must end.

. . . . .  
Who now must heal those wounds, or stop that  
blood  
, The Heathen made and drew into a flood? 10  
Who is 't must plead our cause? Nor trump nor  
drum

<sup>1</sup> Nathaniel Bacon, born in Suffolk, England, in 1647; established a plantation on James River, Virginia; without a commission marched against the Indians in 1676; declared a rebel; died on October 1, 1676.

## SOUTHERN POEMS

Nor Deputations ; these, alas ! are dumb  
And cannot speak. Our Arms (though ne'er so strong)  
Will want the aid of his commanding tongue  
Which conquer'd more than Cæsar. He o'erthrew 15  
Only the outward frame ; this could subdue  
The rugged works of nature. Souls replete  
With dull chill cold, he 'd animate with heat  
Drawn forth of reason's limbic. In a word,  
Mars and Minerva both in him concurred 20  
For art, for arms, whose pen and sword alike,  
As Cato's did, may admiration strike  
Into his foes ; while they confess withal  
It was their guilt styl'd him a criminal.  
Only this difference does from truth proceed ; 25  
They in the guilt, he in the name must bleed.  
While none shall dare his obsequies to sing  
In deserv'd measures ; until time shall bring  
Truth crown'd with freedom, and from danger free  
To sound his praises to posterity. 30  
Here let him rest ; while we this truth report  
He 's gone from thence unto a higher Court  
To plead his cause, where he by this doth know  
Whether to Cæsar he was friend or foe.

## RESIGNATION: OR, DAYS OF MY YOUTH

ST. GEORGE TUCKER

DAYS of my youth, ye have glided away ;  
Hairs of my youth, ye are frosted and gray ;  
Eyes of my youth, your keen sight is no more ;  
Cheeks of my youth, ye are furrowed all o'er ;  
Strength of my youth, all your vigor is gone ; 5  
Thoughts of my youth, your gay visions are flown.

Days of my youth, I wish not your recall ;  
Hairs of my youth, I 'm content ye shall fall ;  
Eyes of my youth, you much evil have seen ;  
Cheeks of my youth, bathed in tears have you been ; 10  
Thoughts of my youth, you have led me astray ;  
Strength of my youth, why lament your decay ?

Days of my age, ye will shortly be past ;  
Pains of my age, yet a while ye can last ;  
Joys of my age, in true wisdom delight ; 15  
Eyes of my age, be religion your light ;  
Thoughts of my age, dread ye not the cold sod ;  
Hopes of my age, be ye fixed on your God.

## THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER

FRANCIS SCOTT KEY

Written during the bombardment of Fort McHenry, in Baltimore,  
in 1814.

O! SAY, can you see, by the dawn's early light,  
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last  
gleaming —  
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the  
clouds of the fight,  
O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly  
streaming ?  
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in  
air, 5  
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still  
there ;  
O! say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave ?



On that shore<sup>A</sup> dimly seen through the mists of the  
deep,

Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence re-  
poses, 10

What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering  
steep,

As it fitfully blows, now conceals, now discloses ?  
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,  
In full glory reflected now shines on the stream ;  
'T is the star-spangled banner ; O long may it wave 15  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave !

And where is that band who so vauntingly swore  
That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion  
A home and a country should leave us no more ?  
Their blood has washed out their foul footsteps' pol-  
lution. 20

No refuge could save the hireling and slave  
From the terror of flight, or the gloom of the grave ;  
And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

O ! thus be it ever, when freemen shall stand 25  
Between their loved homes and the war's desolation !  
Blessed with victory and peace, may the Heav'n-  
rescued land

Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us  
a nation !

Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,  
And this be our motto — " In God is our trust ! " 30  
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

## MY LIFE IS LIKE THE SUMMER ROSE

RICHARD HENRY WILDE

Originally entitled *Stanzas*, and inscribed to Ellen Adair, daughter of General John Adair of Kentucky.

My life is like the summer rose,  
That opens to the morning sky,  
But, ere the shades of evening close,  
Is scattered on the ground — to die !  
Yet on the rose's humble bed 5  
The sweetest dews of night are shed,  
As if she wept the waste to see —  
But none shall weep a tear for me !

My life is like the autumn leaf  
That trembles in the moon's pale ray : 10  
Its hold is frail — its date is brief,  
Restless — and soon to pass away !  
Yet, ere that leaf shall fall and fade,  
The parent tree will mourn its shade,  
The winds bewail the leafless tree — 15  
But none shall breathe a sigh for me !

My life is like the prints which feet  
Have left on Tampa's desert strand;  
Soon as the rising tide shall beat,  
All trace will vanish from the sand ; 20  
Yet, as if grieving to efface  
All vestige of the human race,  
On that lone shore loud moans the sea —  
But none, alas ! shall mourn for me !

# I SIGH FOR THE LAND OF THE CYPRESS AND PINE

SAMUEL HENRY DICKSON

I SIGH for the land of the cypress and pine,  
Where the jessamine blooms, and the gay wood-  
bine;  
Where the moss droops low from the green oak  
tree, —  
Oh, that sun-bright land is the land for me!

The snowy flower of the orange there 5  
Sheds its sweet fragrance through the air;  
And the Indian rose delights to twine  
Its branches with the laughing vine.

There the deer leaps light through the open glade,  
Or hides him far in the forest shade, 10  
When the woods resound in the dewy morn  
With the clang of the merry hunter's horn.

There the hummingbird, of rainbow plume,  
Hangs over the scarlet creeper's bloom;  
While 'midst the leaves his varying dyes 15  
Sparkle like half-seen fairy eyes.

There the echoes ring through the livelong day  
With the mock-bird's changeful roundelay;  
And at night, when the scene is calm and still,  
With the moan of the plaintive whip-poor-will. 20

Oh! I sigh for the land of the cypress and pine,  
Of the laurel, the rose, and the gay woodbine,  
Where the long, gray moss decks the rugged oak  
tree,—  
That sun-bright land is the land for me.

A HEALTH<sup>1</sup>

EDWARD COOTE PINKNEY

I FILL this cup to one made up of loveliness alone,  
A woman of her gentle sex the seeming paragon;  
To whom the better elements and kindly stars have  
given  
A form so fair that, like the air, 't is less of earth  
than heaven.

Her every tone is music's own, like those of morning  
birds, 5  
And something more than melody dwells ever in her  
words;  
The coinage of her heart are they, and from her lips  
each flows  
As one may see the burdened bee forth issue from  
the rose.

Affections are as thoughts to her, the measures of her  
hours;  
Her feelings have the fragrancy, the freshness of  
young flowers; 10

<sup>1</sup> According to Holliday (*Three Centuries of Southern Poetry*, Nashville, 1908), this poem was written in honor of Miss Rebecca Somerville, of Baltimore.

And lovely passions, changing oft, so fill her she  
appears  
The image of themselves by turns — the idol of past  
years!

Of her bright face one glance will trace a picture on  
the brain,  
And of her voice in echoing hearts a sound must long  
remain ;  
But memory, such as mine of her, so very much  
endears, 15  
When death is nigh my latest sigh will not be life's,  
but hers.

I fill this cup to one made up of loveliness alone,  
A woman of her gentle sex the seeming paragon —  
Her health! and would on earth there stood some  
more of such a frame, 19  
That life might be all poetry, and weariness a name.

## THE SWAMP FOX

WILLIAM GILMORE SIMMS

WE follow where the Swamp Fox<sup>1</sup> guides,  
His friends and merry men are we ;  
And when the troop of Tarleton rides,  
We burrow in the cypress tree.  
The turfy hammock is our bed, 5  
Our home is in the red deer's den,  
Our roof, the tree-top overhead,  
For we are wild and hunted men.

<sup>1</sup> General Francis Marion of Revolutionary fame.

We fly by day and shun its light,  
But prompt to strike the sudden blow, 10  
We mount and start with early night,  
And through the forest track our foe,  
And soon he hears our chargers leap,  
The flashing saber blinds his eyes,  
And ere he drives away his sleep, 15  
And rushes from his camp, he dies.

Free bridle-bit, good gallant steed,  
That will not ask a kind caress  
To swim the Santee at our need,  
When on his heels the foemen press — 20  
The true heart and the ready hand,  
The spirit stubborn to be free,  
The twisted bore, the smiting brand —  
And we are Marion's men, you see.

Now light the fire and cook the meal, 25  
The last, perhaps, that we shall taste;  
I hear the Swamp Fox round us steal,  
And that's a sign we move in haste.  
He whistles to the scouts, and hark!  
You hear his order calm and low. 30  
Come, wave your torch across the dark,  
And let us see the boys that go.

We may not see their forms again,  
God help 'em, should they find the strife!  
For they are strong and fearless men, 35  
And make no coward terms for life;  
They'll fight as long as Marion bids,  
And when he speaks the word to shy,

Then, not till then, they turn their steeds,  
Through thickening shade and swamp to fly. 40

Now stir the fire and lie at ease—  
The scouts are gone, and on the brush  
I see the Colonel bend his knees,  
To take his slumbers too. But hush!  
He's praying, comrades; 't is not strange; 45  
The man that's fighting day by day  
May well, when night comes, take a change,  
And down upon his knees to pray.

Break up that hoecake, boys, and hand  
The sly and silent jug that's there; 50  
I love not it should idly stand  
When Marion's men have need of cheer.  
'T is seldom that our luck affords  
A stuff like this we just have quaffed,  
And dry potatoes on our boards 55  
May always call for such a draught.

Now pile the brush and roll the log;  
Hard pillow, but a soldier's head  
That's half the time in brake and bog  
Must never think of softer bed. 60  
The owl is hooting to the night,  
The cooter crawling o'er the bank,  
And in that pond the flashing light  
Tells where the alligator sank.

What! 't is the signal! start so soon, 65  
And through the Santee swamp so deep,  
Without the aid of friendly moon,  
And we, Heaven help us! half asleep!

But courage, comrades ! Marion leads ;  
The Swamp Fox takes us out to-night ; 70  
So clear your swords and spur your steeds,  
There 's goodly chance, I think, of fight.

We follow where the Swamp Fox guides,  
We leave the swamp and cypress tree,  
Our spurs are in our coursers' sides, 75  
And ready for the strife are we.  
The Tory camp is now in sight,  
And there he cowers within his den ;  
He hears our shouts, he dreads the fight,  
He fears, and flies from Marion's men. 80

## ISRAFEL

EDGAR ALLAN POE

"And the angel, Israfel, whose heartstrings are a lute, and who has the sweetest voice of all God's creatures." — *The Koran*.

IN Heaven a spirit doth dwell  
Whose heartstrings are a lute ;  
None sing so wildly well  
As the angel Israfel,  
And the giddy stars (so legends tell), 5  
Ceasing their hymns, attend the spell  
Of his voice, all mute.

Tottering above  
In her highest noon,  
The enamored moon 10  
Blushes with love,  
While, to listen, the red levin  
(With the rapid Pleiads, even,



Which were seven)

Pauses in Heaven.

15

And they say (the starry choir

And the other listening things)

That Israfeli's fire

Is owing to that lyre

By which he sits and sings, —

20

The trembling living wire

Of those unusual strings.

But the skies that angel trod,

Where deep thoughts are a duty,

Where Love's a grown-up God,

25

Where the Houri glances are

Imbued with all the beauty

Which we worship in a star.

Therefore thou art not wrong,

Israfeli, who despisest

30

An unimpassioned song ;

To thee the laurels belong,

Best bard, because the wisest :

Merrily live, and long !

The ecstasies above

35

With thy burning measures suit :

Thy grief, thy joy, thy hate, thy love,

With the fervor of thy lute ;

Well may the stars be mute !

Yes, Heaven is thine ; but this

40

Is a world of sweets and sour ;

Our flowers are merely — flowers,

And the shadow of thy perfect bliss  
Is the sunshine of ours.

If I could dwell 45  
Where Israfel  
Hath dwelt, and he where I,  
He might not sing so wildly well  
A mortal melody,  
While a bolder note than this might swell 50  
From my lyre within the sky.

## ANNABEL LEE

EDGAR ALLAN POE

This poem appeared in the *New York Tribune*, October 9, 1849, two days after Poe's death. Presumably the poem refers to Mrs. Poe.<sup>1</sup>

It was many and many a year ago,  
In a kingdom by the sea,  
That a maiden there lived whom you may know  
By the name of Annabel Lee;  
And this maiden she lived with no other thought 5  
Than to love and be loved by me.

I was a child and *she* was a child,  
In this kingdom by the sea;  
But we loved with a love that was more than love,  
I and my Annabel Lee; 10  
With a love that the wingèd seraphs of heaven  
Coveted her and me.

<sup>1</sup> For another interpretation see vol. VII, p. 218, of the Virginia edition of Poe's *Works*, edited by James A. Harrison, New York, 1902.

And this was the reason that, long ago,  
In this kingdom by the sea,  
A wind blew out of a cloud, chilling 15  
My beautiful Annabel Lee ;  
So that her highborn kinsmen came  
And bore her away from me,  
To shut her up in a sepulcher  
In this kingdom by the sea. 20

The angels, not half so happy in heaven,  
Went envying her and me ;  
Yes ! that was the reason (as all men know,  
In this kingdom by the sea)  
That the wind came out of the cloud by night, 25  
Chilling and killing my Annabel Lee.

But our love it was stronger by far than the love  
Of those who were older than we,  
Of many far wiser than we ;  
And neither the angels in heaven above, 30  
Nor the demons down under the sea,  
Can ever dissever my soul from the soul  
Of the beautiful Annabel Lee :

For the moon never beams, without bringing me  
dreams  
Of the beautiful Annabel Lee ; 35  
And the stars never rise, but I feel the bright eyes  
Of the beautiful Annabel Lee :  
And so, all the night-tide, I lie down by the side  
Of my darling — my darling — my life and my bride,  
In her sepulcher there by the sea, 40  
In her tomb by the sounding sea.

## THE RAVEN

EDGAR ALLAN POE

First published in *The Evening Mirror* on January 29, 1845.

ONCE upon a midnight dreary, while I pondered, weak  
and weary,  
Over many a quaint and curious volume of forgotten  
lore, —  
While I nodded, nearly napping, suddenly there came  
a tapping,  
As of some one gently rapping, rapping at my chamber  
door.  
“Tis some visitor,” I muttered, “tapping at my  
chamber door: 5  
Only this and nothing more.”

Ah, distinctly I remember it was in the bleak De-  
cember;  
And each separate dying ember wrought its ghost upon  
the floor.  
Eagerly I wished the morrow; — vainly I had sought  
to borrow  
From my books surcease of sorrow — sorrow for the  
lost Lenore, 10  
For the rare and radiant maiden whom the angels  
name Lenore:  
Nameless here for evermore.

And the silken, sad, uncertain rustling of each purple  
curtain  
Thrilled me — filled me with fantastic terrors never  
felt before;

So that now, to still the beating of my heart, I stood  
repeating : 15

“ ‘T is some visitor entreating entrance at my chamber  
door,

Some late visitor entreating entrance at my chamber  
door :

This it is and nothing more.”

Presently my soul grew stronger ; hesitating then no  
longer,

“ Sir,” said I, “ or Madam, truly your forgiveness I  
implore ; 20

But the fact is I was napping, and so gently you came  
rapping,

And so faintly you came tapping, tapping at my  
chamber door,

That I scarce was sure I heard you ” — here I opened  
wide the door : —

Darkness there and nothing more.

Deep into that darkness peering, long I stood there  
wondering, fearing, 25

Doubting, dreaming dreams no mortals ever dared to  
dream before ;

But the silence was unbroken, and the stillness gave  
no token,

And the only word there spoken was the whispered  
word, “ Lenore ? ”

This I whispered, and an echo murmured back the  
word, “ Lenore ! ”

Merely this and nothing more. 30

Back into the chamber turning, all my soul within me  
burning,

Soon again I heard a tapping somewhat louder than before.

“Surely,” said I, “surely that is something at my window lattice;

Let me see, then, what thereat is, and this mystery explore;

Let my heart be still a moment and this mystery explore:

35

’T is the wind and nothing more.”

Open here I flung the shutter, when, with many a flirt and flutter,

In there stepped a stately Raven of the saintly days of yore.

Not the least obeisance made he; not a minute stopped or stayed he;

But, with mien of lord or lady, perched above my chamber door,

40

Perched upon a bust of Pallas just above my chamber door:

Perched, and sat, and nothing more.

Then this ebony bird beguiling my sad fancy into smiling

By the grave and stern decorum of the countenance it wore, —

“Though thy crest be shorn and shaven, thou,” I said, “art sure no craven,

45

Ghastly grim and ancient Raven wandering from the Nightly shore:

Tell me what thy lordly name is on the Night’s Plutonian shore!”

Quoth the Raven, “Nevermore.”

Much I marveled this ungainly fowl to hear discourse  
so plainly,

Though his answer little meaning — little relevancy  
bore ; 50

For we cannot help agreeing that no living human  
being

Ever yet was blessed with seeing bird above his  
chamber door,

Bird or beast upon the sculptured bust above his  
chamber door,

With such name as “Nevermore.”

But the Raven, sitting lonely on the placid bust,  
spoke only 55

That one word, as if his soul in that one word he did  
outpour.

Nothing further then he uttered, not a feather then he  
fluttered,

Till I scarcely more than muttered, “Other friends  
have flown before :

On the morrow *he* will leave me, as my Hopes have  
flown before.”

Then the bird said, “Nevermore.” 60

Startled at the stillness broken by reply so aptly  
spoken,

“Doubtless,” said I, “what it utters is its only stock  
and store,

Caught from some unhappy master whom unmerciful  
Disaster

Followed fast and followed faster till his songs one  
burden bore :

Till the dirges of his Hope that melancholy burden  
bore 65

Of ‘Never — nevermore.’”

But the Raven still beguiling all my fancy into  
smiling,  
Straight I wheeled a cushioned seat in front of bird  
and bust and door ;  
Then, upon the velvet sinking, I betook myself to  
linking  
Fancy into fancy, thinking what this ominous bird of  
yore, 70  
What this grim, ungainly, ghastly, gaunt, and omi-  
nous bird of yore  
Meant in croaking "Nevermore."

Thus I sat engaged in guessing, but no syllable ex-  
pressing  
To the fowl whose fiery eyes now burned into my  
bosom's core ;  
This and more I sat divining, with my head at ease  
reclining 75  
On the cushion's velvet lining that the lamplight  
gloated o'er,  
But whose velvet violet lining with the lamplight  
gloating o'er  
*She* shall press, ah, nevermore !

Then, methought, the air grew denser, perfumed from  
an unseen censer  
Swung by seraphim whose footfalls tinkled on the  
tufted floor. 80  
"Wretch," I cried, "thy God hath lent thee — by  
these angels he hath sent thee  
Respite — respite and nepenthe from thy memories  
of Lenore ;  
Quaff, oh quaff this kind nepenthe, and forget this  
lost Lenore !"  
Quoth the Raven, "Nevermore."



"Prophet!" said I, "thing of evil! prophet still, if  
bird or devil!" 85

Whether Tempter sent, or whether tempest tossed  
thee here ashore,

Desolate yet all undaunted, on this desert land en-  
chanted —

On this home by Horror haunted — tell me truly, I  
implore :

Is there — is there balm in Gilead? — tell me — tell  
me, I implore!"

Quoth the Raven, "Nevermore." 90

"Prophet!" said I, "thing of evil! prophet still, if  
bird or devil!

By that Heaven that bends above us, by that God we  
both adore,

Tell this soul with sorrow laden if, within the distant  
Aidenn,

It shall clasp a sainted maiden whom the angels  
name Lenore :

Clasp a rare and radiant maiden whom the angels  
name Lenore!" 95

Quoth the Raven, "Nevermore."

"Be that word our sign of parting, bird or fiend!"

I shrieked, upstarting :

"Get thee back into the tempest and the Night's Plu-  
tonian shore!

Leave no black plume as a token of that lie thy soul  
hath spoken!

Leave my loneliness unbroken! quit the bust above  
my door! 100

Take thy beak from out my heart, and take thy form  
from off my door!"

Quoth the Raven, "Nevermore."

And the Raven, never flitting, still is sitting, still is  
sitting

On the pallid bust of Pallas just above my chamber  
door;

And his eyes have all the seeming of a demon's that  
is dreaming, 105

And the lamplight o'er him streaming throws his  
shadow on the floor :

And my soul from out that shadow that lies floating  
on the floor

Shall be lifted — nevermore !

## ODE TO THE MOCKING-BIRD

ALBERT PIKE

THOU glorious mocker of the world ! I hear

Thy many voices ringing through the glooms

Of these green solitudes ; and all the clear,

Bright joyance of their song enthralls the ear,

And floods the heart. Over the spherèd tombs 5

Of vanished nations rolls thy music tide ;

No light from History's starlit page illumines

The memory of these nations ; they have died :

None care for them but thou ; and thou mayst sing

O'er me perhaps, as now thy clear notes ring 10

Over their bones by whom thou once wast deified.

Glad scorner of all cities ! Thou dost leave

The world's mad turmoil and incessant din,

Where none in other's honesty believe,

Where the old sigh, the young turn gray and grieve,

Where misery gnaws the maiden's heart within :

Thou fleest far into the dark green woods,

Where, with thy flood of music, thou canst win  
Their heart to harmony, and where intrudes  
No discord on thy melodies. O, where, 20  
Among the sweet musicians of the air,  
Is one so dear as thou to these old solitudes?

Ha! what a burst was that! The Æolian strain  
Goes floating through the tangled passages  
Of the still woods, and now it comes again, 25  
A multitudinous melody, — like a rain  
Of glassy music under echoing trees,  
Close by a ringing lake. It wraps the soul  
With a bright harmony of happiness,  
Even as a gem is wrapped when round it roll 30  
Thin waves of crimson flame; till we become,  
With the excess of perfect pleasure, dumb,  
And pant like a swift runner clinging to the goal.

I cannot love the man who doth not love,  
As men love light, the song of happy birds; 35  
For the first visions that my boy heart wove  
To fill its sleep with, were that I did rove  
Through the fresh woods, what time the snowy herds  
Of morning clouds shrunk from the advancing sun  
Into the depths of Heaven's blue heart, as words 40  
From the Poet's lips float gently, one by one,  
And vanish in the human heart; and then  
I reveled in such songs, and sorrowed when,  
With noon-heat overwrought, the music-gush was  
done.

I would, sweet bird, that I might live with thee, 45  
Amid the eloquent grandeur of these shades,  
Alone with nature — but it may not be;

I have to struggle with the stormy sea  
Of human life until existence fades  
Into death's darkness. Thou wilt sing and soar 50  
Through the thick woods and shadow-checked  
glades,  
While pain and sorrow cast no dimness o'er  
The brilliance of thy heart ; but I must wear,  
As now, my garments of regret and care,  
As penitents of old their galling sackcloth wore. 55

Yet why complain ? What though fond hopes deferred  
Have overshadowed Life's green paths with gloom ?  
Content's soft music is not all unheard ;  
There is a voice sweeter than thine, sweet bird,  
To welcome me within my humble home : 60  
There is an eye, with love's devotion bright,  
The darkness of existence to illumine.  
Then why complain ? When Death shall cast his  
blight  
Over the spirit, my cold bones shall rest  
Beneath these trees ; and from thy swelling breast, 65  
Over them pour thy song, like a rich flood of light.

## LAND OF THE SOUTH

ALEXANDER BEAUFORT MEEK

These stanzas were introduced in an address entitled "The Day of Freedom," delivered in 1838.

### I

LAND of the South ! — imperial land ! —  
How proud thy mountains rise !  
How sweet thy scenes on every hand !  
How fair thy covering skies !

But not for this — oh, not for these — 5  
 I love thy fields to roam ;  
 Thou hast a dearer spell to me, —  
 Thou art my native home !

## II

Thy rivers roll their liquid wealth,  
 Unequaled to the sea ; 10  
 Thy hills and valleys bloom with health,  
 And green with verdure be !  
 But not for thy proud ocean streams,  
 Not for thy azure dome,  
 Sweet, sunny South, I cling to thee, — 15  
 Thou art my native home !

## III

I've stood beneath Italia's clime,  
 Beloved of tale and song,  
 On Helvyn's<sup>1</sup> hills, proud and sublime,  
 Where nature's wonders throng ; 20  
 By Tempe's classic sunlit streams,  
 Where Gods, of old, did roam, —  
 But ne'er have found so fair a land  
 As thou, my native home !

## IV

And thou hast prouder glories, too, 25  
 Than nature ever gave ;  
 Peace sheds o'er thee her genial dew,  
 And Freedom's pinions wave ;  
 Fair Science flings her pearls around,  
 Religion lifts her dome, — 30  
 These, these endear thee to my heart,  
 My own, loved native home !

<sup>1</sup> Helvyn, poetical name for Switzerland.

V

And "Heaven's best gift to man" is thine —

God bless thy rosy girls!

Like sylvan flowers they sweetly shine, 35

Their hearts are pure as pearls!

And grace and goodness circle them,

Where'er their footsteps roam;

How can I then, whilst loving them,

Not love my native home? 40

VI

Land of the South! — imperial land! —

Then here's a health to thee:

Long as thy mountain barriers stand,

May'st thou be blest and free!

May dark dissension's banner ne'er 45

Wave o'er thy fertile loam!

But should it come, there's one will die

To save his native home!

FLORENCE VANE

PHILIP PENDLETON COOKE

Published in *The Gentleman's Magazine* in 1839, while Poe was its editor. It was not personal in its address.

I LOVED thee long and dearly,

Florence Vane;

My life's bright dream and early

Hath come again;

I renew in my fond vision 5

My heart's dear pain,

My hope and thy derision,

Florence Vane!

The ruin, lone and hoary,  
The ruin old, 10  
Where thou didst hark my story,  
At even told, —  
That spot — the hues Elysian  
Of sky and plain —  
I treasure in my vision, 15  
Florence Vane.

Thou wast lovelier than the roses  
In their prime ;  
Thy voice excelled the closes  
Of sweetest rhyme ; 20  
Thy heart was as a river  
Without a main.  
Would I had loved thee never,  
Florence Vane !

But, fairest, coldest wonder 25  
Thy glorious clay  
Lieth the green sod under —  
Alas the day !  
And it boots not to remember  
Thy disdain — 30  
To quicken love's pale ember,  
Florence Vane !

The lilies of the valley  
By young graves weep,  
The pansies love to dally 35  
Where maidens sleep :  
May their bloom, in beauty vying,  
Never wane  
Where thine earthly part is lying,  
Florence Vane ! 40

## THE BIVOUAC OF THE DEAD

THEODORE O'HARA

Read by its author when his comrades who had fallen in Mexico were buried in Frankfort, Kentucky, in 1847.

THE muffled drum's sad roll has beat  
The soldier's last tattoo ;  
No more on life's parade shall meet  
That brave and fallen few.  
On Fame's eternal camping-ground 5  
Their silent tents are spread,  
And Glory guards, with solemn round,  
The bivouac of the dead.

No rumor of the foe's advance  
Now swells upon the wind ; 10  
No troubled thought at midnight haunts  
Of loved ones left behind ;  
No vision of the morrow's strife  
The warrior's dream alarms ;  
No braying horn nor screaming fife 15  
At dawn shall call to arms.

Their shivered swords are red with rust,  
Their plumèd heads are bowed ;  
Their haughty banner, trailed in dust,  
Is now their martial shroud. 20  
And plenteous funeral tears have washed  
The red stains from each brow,  
And the proud forms, by battle gashed,  
Are free from anguish now.

The neighing troop, the flashing blade, 25  
The bugle's stirring blast,



The charge, the dreadful cannonade,  
The din and shout, are past ;  
Nor war's wild note nor glory's peal  
Shall thrill with fierce delight 30  
Those breasts that never more may feel  
The rapture of the fight.

Like the fierce northern hurricane  
That sweeps this great plateau,  
Flushed with triumph yet to gain, 35  
Came down the serried foe.<sup>1</sup>  
Who heard the thunder of the fray  
Break o'er the field beneath,  
Knew well the watchword of that day  
Was " Victory or death." 40

Long had the doubtful conflict raged  
O'er all that stricken plain,  
For never fiercer fight had waged  
The vengeful blood of Spain ;  
And still the storm of battle blew, 45  
Still swelled the gory tide ;  
Not long, our stout old chieftain<sup>2</sup> knew,  
Such odds his strength could bide.

'T was in that hour his stern command  
Called to a martyr's grave 50  
The flower of his beloved land  
The nation's flag to save.  
By rivers of their fathers' gore  
His firstborn laurels grew,  
And well he deemed the sons would pour 55  
Their lives for glory too.

<sup>1</sup> General Santa Anna commanded 21,000 Mexicans.

<sup>2</sup> Zachary Taylor.

Full many a norther's breath has swept  
O'er Angostura's plain —  
And long the pitying sky has wept  
Above its moldering slain. 60  
The raven's scream, or eagle's flight,  
Or shepherd's pensive lay,  
Alone awakes each sullen height  
That frowned o'er that dread fray.

Sons of the Dark and Bloody Ground,<sup>1</sup> 65  
Ye must not slumber there,  
Where stranger steps and tongues resound  
Along the heedless air.  
Your own proud land's heroic soil  
Shall be your fitter grave; 70  
She claims from War his richest spoil —  
The ashes of her brave.

Thus 'neath their parent turf they rest,  
Far from the gory field;  
Borne to a Spartan mother's breast 75  
On many a bloody shield;  
The sunlight of their native sky  
Smiles sadly on them here,  
And kindred eyes and hearts watch by  
The heroes' sepulcher. 80

Rest on, embalmed and sainted dead,  
Dear as the blood ye gave;  
No impious footstep here shall tread  
The herbage of your grave;  
Nor shall your glory be forgot 85  
While Fame her record keeps,

<sup>1</sup> "Kentucky" is an Indian word meaning "Dark and Bloody Ground."

Or Honor points the hallowed spot  
Where Valor proudly sleeps.

Yon marble minstrel's voiceless stone  
In deathless song shall tell, 90  
When many a vanished age hath flown,  
The story how ye fell;  
Nor wreck, nor change, nor winter's blight,  
Nor Time's remorseless doom,  
Shall dim one ray of glory's light 95  
That gilds your glorious tomb.

## THE LONG AGO<sup>1</sup>

PHILO HENDERSON

OH! a wonderful stream is the river of Time,  
As it runs through the realm of tears,  
With a faultless rhythm, and musical rhyme,  
And a broader sweep, and a surge sublime,  
And blends with the ocean of years! 5

How the winters are drifting like flakes of snow,  
And summers like buds between,  
And the ears in the sheaf, — so they come and they  
go  
On the river's breast with its ebb and flow,  
As it glides in the shadow and sheen! 10

There's a magical Isle in the river of Time  
Where the softest of airs are playing;  
There's a cloudless sky, and a tropical clime,

<sup>1</sup> This poem has been freely imitated, and several times confiscated.

And a song as sweet as a vesper chime,  
And the Junes with the roses are staying. 15

And the name of this Isle is the Long Ago,  
And we bury our treasures there, —  
There are brows of beauty, and bosoms of snow,  
There are heaps of dust, — but we loved them so!  
There are trinkets, and tresses of hair. 20

There are fragments of song that nobody sings,  
And a part of an infant's prayer;  
There 's a lute unswept, and a harp without strings,  
There are broken vows and pieces of rings,  
And the garments she used to wear. 25

There are hands that are waved when the fairy shore  
By the mirage is lifted in air,  
And we sometimes hear, through the turbulent roar,  
Sweet voices heard in the days gone before,  
When the wind down the river is fair. 30

Oh! remembered for aye be that blessed Isle,  
All the day of life till the night;  
When the evening comes with its beautiful smile,  
And our eyes are closing to slumber awhile,  
May that "Greenwood" of soul be in sight! 35

LITTLE GIFFEN<sup>1</sup>

FRANCIS ORRAY TICKNOR

A true story of a boy whom Dr. Ticknor nursed back to life at Torch Hill, Georgia.

Out of the focal and foremost fire,  
 Out of the hospital walls as dire,  
 Smitten of grapeshot and gangrene,  
 Eighteenth battle and he sixteen —  
 Specter such as you seldom see, 5  
 Little Giffen of Tennessee.

“Take him and welcome,” the surgeon said;  
 “Not the doctor can help the dead!”  
 So we took him and brought him where  
 The balm was sweet in our summer air; 10  
 And we laid him down on a wholesome bed;  
 Utter Lazarus, heel to head!

And we watched the war with abated breath,  
 Skeleton boy against skeleton death!  
 Months of torture, how many such! 15  
 Weary weeks of the stick and crutch, —  
 And still a glint in the steel-blue eye  
 Told of a spirit that would n't die,

And did n't! Nay! more! in death's despite  
 The crippled skeleton learned to write — 20  
 “Dear mother!” at first, of course, and then  
 “Dear Captain!” inquiring about the men.

<sup>1</sup> From *Poems* by Francis Orray Ticknor, collected and edited by Michell Cutliff Ticknor and issued by the Neale Publishing Company, New York.

Captain's answer : " Of eighty and five,  
Giffen and I are left alive."

" Johnston<sup>1</sup> pressed at the front," they say ; — 25  
Little Giffen was up and away !  
A tear, his first, as he bade good-by,  
Dimmed the glint of his steel-blue eye.  
" I'll write, if spared ! " There was news of fight,  
But none of Giffen — he did not write ! 30

I sometimes fancy that were I King  
Of the courtly Knights of Arthur's ring,  
With the voice of the minstrel in mine ear  
And the tender legend that trembles here,  
I'd give the best on his bended knee — 35  
The whitest soul of my chivalry —  
For Little Giffen of Tennessee.

## MUSIC IN CAMP

JOHN REUBEN THOMPSON

The contending armies were encamped on opposite sides of the Rappahannock River, near Fredericksburg, during the winter of 1862-63.

Two armies covered hill and plain,  
Where Rappahannock's waters  
Ran deeply crimsoned with the stain  
Of battle's recent slaughters.

The summer clouds lay pitched like tents 5  
In meads of heavenly azure ;

<sup>1</sup> General Joseph E. Johnston, once commander of the Army of Northern Virginia.

And each dread gun of the elements  
Slept in its embrasure.

The breeze so softly blew it made  
No forest leaf to quiver, 10  
And the smoke of the random cannonade  
Rolled slowly from the river.

And now, where circling hills looked down  
With cannon grimly planted,  
O'er listless camp and silent town 15  
The golden sunset slanted.

When on the fervid air there came  
A strain — now rich, now tender ;  
The music seemed itself aflame  
With day's departing splendor. 20

A Federal band, which, eve and morn,  
Played measures brave and nimble,  
Had just struck up, with flute and horn  
And lively clash of cymbal.

Down flocked the soldiers to the banks, 25  
Till, margined by its pebbles,  
One wooded shore was blue with "Yanks,"  
And one was gray with "Rebels."

Then all was still, and then the band,  
With movement light and tricky, 30  
Made stream and forest, hill and strand,  
Reverberate with "Dixie."

The conscious stream with burnished glow  
Went proudly o'er its pebbles,

JOHN REUBEN THOMPSON 35

But thrilled throughout its deepest flow 35  
With yelling of the Rebels.

Again a pause, and then again  
The trumpets pealed sonorous,  
And "Yankee Doodle" was the strain  
To which the shore gave chorus. 40

The laughing ripple shoreward flew,  
To kiss the shining pebbles ;  
Loud shrieked the swarming Boys in Blue  
Defiance to the Rebels.

And yet once more the bugle sang 45  
Above the stormy riot ;  
No shout upon the evening rang —  
There reigned a holy quiet.

The sad, slow stream its noiseless flood  
Poured over the glistening pebbles ; 50  
All silent now the Yankees stood,  
And silent stood the Rebels.

No unresponsive soul had heard  
That plaintive note's appealing,  
So deeply "Home, Sweet Home" had stirred 55  
The hidden founts of feeling.

Or Blue, or Gray, the soldier sees,  
As by the wand of fairy,  
The cottage 'neath the live oak trees,  
The cabin by the prairie. 60

Or cold, or warm, his native skies  
Bend in their beauty o'er him ;



Seen through the tear mist in his eyes,  
His loved ones stand before him.

As fades the iris after rain 65  
In April's tearful weather,  
The vision vanished, as the strain  
And daylight died together.

But memory, waked by music's art,  
Expressed in simplest numbers, 70  
Subdued the sternest Yankee's heart,  
Made light the Rebel's slumbers.

And fair the form of music shines,  
That bright celestial creature,  
Who still, 'mid war's embattled lines, 75  
Gave this one touch of Nature.

### CARCASSONNE<sup>1</sup>

JOHN REUBEN THOMPSON

"I'M growing old, I've sixty years ;  
I've labored all my life in vain :  
In all that time of hopes and fears  
I've failed my dearest wish to gain.  
I see full well that here below 5  
Bliss unalloyed there is for none.  
My prayer will ne'er fulfilment know  
I never have seen Carcassonne,  
I never have seen Carcassonne !

<sup>1</sup> No finer translation of Gustav Nadaud's famous poem is known.

"You see the city from the hill, 10

It lies beyond the mountains blue,  
And yet to reach it one must still  
Five long and weary leagues pursue,  
And to return as many more!

Ah! had the vintage plenteous grown! 15  
The grape withheld its yellow store!  
I shall not look on Carcassonne,  
I shall not look on Carcassonne!

"They tell me every day is there  
Not more or less than Sunday gay: 20

In shining robes and garments fair  
The people walk upon their way.

One gazes there on castle walls  
As grand as those of Babylon,  
A bishop and two generals! 25  
I do not know fair Carcassonne,  
I do not know fair Carcassonne!

"The vicar's right; he says that we  
Are ever wayward, weak and blind,  
He tells us in his homily 30

Ambition ruins all mankind;  
Yet could I there two days have spent  
While still the autumn sweetly shone,

Ah me! I might have died content  
When I had looked on Carcassonne, 35  
When I had looked on Carcassonne!

"Thy pardon, Father, I beseech,  
In this my prayer if I append:  
One something sees beyond his reach  
From childhood to his journey's end. 40

My wife, our little boy Aignon,  
 Have traveled even to Narbonne ;  
 My grandchild has seen Perpignon,  
 And I have not seen Carcassonne,  
 And I have not seen Carcassonne!" 45

So crooned one day, close by Limoux,  
 A peasant double-bent with age ;  
 "Rise up, my friend," said I ; "with you  
 I'll go upon this pilgrimage."  
 We left next morning his abode, 50  
 But (Heaven forgive him) halfway on,  
 The old man died upon the road ;  
 He never gazed on Carcassonne,  
 Each mortal has his Carcassonne !

## THE WINDOW-PANES AT BRANDON<sup>1</sup>

JOHN REUBEN THOMPSON

As within the old mansion the holiday throng  
 Reassembles in beauty and grace,  
 And some eye looking out of the window by chance,  
 These memorial records may trace —  
 How the past, like a swift-coming haze from the sea,  
 In an instant surrounds us once more, 6  
 While the shadowy figures of those we have loved,  
 All distinctly are seen on the shore !

Through the vista of years, stretching dimly away,  
 We but look, and a vision behold . . . 10

<sup>1</sup> Upon the window-panes at Brandon, a well-known mansion on the James River in Virginia, names of many guests were cut with a diamond.

Like some magical picture the sunset reveals  
With its colors of crimson and gold,  
All suffused with the glow of the hearth's ruddy  
blaze,  
From beneath the gay "mistletoe bough,"  
There are faces that break into smiles as divinely 15  
As any that beam on us now.

While the Old Year departing strides ghost-like along  
O'er the hills that are dark with the storm,  
To the New the brave beaker is filled to the brim,  
And the play of affection is warm : 20  
Look once more . . . as the garlanded Spring reap-  
pears,  
In her footsteps we welcome a train  
Of fair women, whose eyes are as bright as the gem  
That has cut their dear names on the pane.

From the canvas of Vandyke or Kneller that hangs 25  
On the old-fashioned wainscoted wall,  
Stately ladies, the favored of poets, look down  
On the guests and the revel and all ;  
But their beauty, though wedded to eloquent verse,  
And though rendered immortal by Art, 30  
Yet outshines not the beauty that, breathing below,  
In a moment takes captive the heart.

Many winters have since frosted over these panes  
With the tracery work of the rime ;  
Many Aprils have brought back the birds to the  
lawn 35  
From some far-away tropical clime :  
But the guests of the season, alas ! where are they ?  
Some, the shores of the stranger have trod,

And some names have been long ago carved on the  
stone,

Where they sweetly rest under the sod. 40

How uncertain the record ! the hand of a child

In its innocent sport, unawares,

May, at any time, lucklessly shatter the pane,

And thus cancel the story it bears ;

Still a portion, at least, shall uninjured remain 45

Unto trustier tablets consigned,

The fond names that survive in the memory of friends

Who yet linger a season behind.

Recollect, O young soul, with ambition inspired !

Let the moral be read as we pass ; 50

Recollect, the illusory tablets of fame

Have been ever as brittle as glass ;

Oh ! be not content with the name thus inscribed,

For as well may you trace it in dust ;

But resolve to record it, where long it shall stand, 55

In the hearts of the good and the just.

## BEFORE DEATH<sup>1</sup>

MARGARET JUNKIN PRESTON

### I

How much would I care for it, could I know

That when I am under the grass or snow,

The ravelled garment of life's brief day

Folded, and quietly laid away ;

<sup>1</sup> The three poems by Margaret Junkin Preston are printed by courtesy of Little, Brown and Company.

The spirit let loose from mortal bars, 5  
 And somewhere away among the stars :  
 How much would you think it would matter then  
 What praise was lavished upon me, when,  
 Whatever might be its stint or store,  
 It neither could help nor harm me more? 10

II

If midst of my toil they had but thought  
 To stretch a finger, I would have caught  
 Gladly such aid, to bear me through  
 Some bitter duty I had to do :  
 And when it was done, had I but heard 15  
 One breath of applause, one cheering word,  
 One cry of " Courage ! " amid the strife,  
 So weighted for me, with death or life,  
 How would it have nerved my soul to strain  
 Through the whirl of the coming surge again ! 20

III

What use for the rope, if it be not flung  
 Till the swimmer's grasp to the rock has clung ?  
 What help in a comrade's bugle-blast  
 When the peril of Alpine heights is past ?  
 What need that the spurring pæan roll 25  
 When the runner is safe beyond the goal ?  
 What worth is eulogy's blandest breath  
 When whispered in ears that are hushed in death ?  
 No ! no ! if you have but a word of cheer,  
 Speak it, while I am alive to hear ! 30

## THE SHADE OF THE TREES

MARGARET JUNKIN PRESTON

"Let us pass over the river and rest under the shade of the trees" were the last words of Stonewall Jackson in 1863. Mrs. Preston was General Jackson's sister-in-law.

WHAT are the thoughts that are stirring his breast?

What is the mystical vision he sees?

"Let us pass over the river and rest  
Under the shade of the trees."

Has he grown sick of his toils and his tasks? 5

Sighs the worn spirit for respite or ease?

Is it a moment's cool halt that he asks  
Under the shade of the trees?

Is it the gurgle of waters whose flow

Ofttime has come to him borne on the breeze, 10

Memory listens to, lapsing so low,

Under the shade of the trees?

Nay — though the rasp of the flesh was so sore,

Faith, that had yearnings far keener than these,  
Saw the soft sheen of the Thitherward Shore, 15

Under the shade of the trees ; —

Caught the high psalms of ecstatic delight,

Heard the harps harping like soundings of seas,  
Watched earth's assoiled ones walking in white

Under the shade of the trees. 20

O, was it strange he should pine for release,

Touched to the soul with such transports as these,

He who so needed the balsam of peace,  
Under the shade of the trees?

Yes, it was noblest for him — it was best 25  
(Questioning naught of our Father's decrees)  
There to pass over the river and rest  
Under the shade of the trees!

## GONE FORWARD

MARGARET JUNKIN PRESTON

Among the broken sentences uttered by General Lee on his death-bed (1870) was this: "Let the tent be struck, the General has gone forward."

YES, "Let the tent be struck": victorious morning  
Through every crevice flashes in a day  
Magnificent beyond all earth's adorning:  
The night is over; wherefore should he stay?  
And wherefore should our voices choke to say, 5  
"The General has gone forward"?

Life's foughten field not once beheld surrender;  
But with superb endurance, present, past,  
Our pure commander, lofty, simple, tender,  
Through good, through ill, held his high purpose  
fast, 10  
Wearing his armor spotless, — till at last  
Death gave the final "*Forward!*"

All hearts grew sudden palsied: Yet what said he  
Thus summoned? — "*Let the tent be struck!*" —  
For when  
Did call of duty fail to find him ready 15



Nobly to do his work in sight of men,  
 For God's and for his country's sake — and then  
 To watch, wait, or go forward ?

We will not weep, — we dare not ! Such a story  
 As his large life writes on the century's years, 20  
 Should crowd our bosoms with a flush of glory,  
 That manhood's type, supremest that appears  
 To-day, *he* shows the ages. Nay, no tears  
 Because he has gone forward !

Gone forward? — whither? Where the marshalled  
 legions, 25  
 Christ's well-worn soldiers, from their conflicts  
 cease, —  
 Where Faith's true Red-Cross Knights repose in  
 regions  
 Thick-studded with the calm, white tents of  
 peace, —  
 Thither, right joyful to accept release,  
 The General has gone forward ! 30

## WASHINGTON — PATER PATRIÆ<sup>1</sup>

JAMES BARRON HOPE

ACHILLES came from Homer's Jove-like brain,  
 Pavilioned 'mid his ships where Thetis trod ;  
 But he whose image dominates this plain  
 Came from the hand of God !

<sup>1</sup> This is an excerpt from "Arms and the Man," a poem recited on the One Hundredth Anniversary of the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown, Virginia. This and the poem following are printed by courtesy of Mrs. Janie Hope Marr.

Yet of his life, which shall all time adorn, 5  
I dare not sing ; to try the theme would be  
To drink as 't were that Scandinavian Horn  
Whose tip was in the Sea.

I bow my head and go upon my ways,  
Who tells that story can but gild the gold — 10  
Could I pile Alps on Apennines of praise  
The tale would not be told.

Not his the blade which lyric fables say  
Cleft Pyrenees from ridge to nether bed,  
But his the sword which cleared the Sacred Way 15  
For Freedom's feet to tread.

Not Cæsar's genius nor Napoleon's skill  
Gave him proud mast'ry o'er the trembling earth ;  
But great in honesty, and sense and will —  
He was the "man of worth." 20

He knew not North, nor South, nor West, nor East :  
Childless himself, Father of States he stood,  
Strong and sagacious as a Knight turned Priest,  
And vowed to deeds of good.

Compared with all Earth's heroes I may say 25  
He was, with even half his virtues hid,  
Greater in what his hand refrained than they  
Were great in what they did.

And thus his image dominates all time,  
Uplifted like the everlasting dome 30  
Which rises in a miracle sublime  
Above eternal Rome.

On Rome's once blooming plain where'er we stray  
 That dome majestic rises on the view,  
 Its Cross a-glow with every wandering ray 35  
 That shines along the Blue.

So his vast image shadows all the lands,  
 So holds forever Man's adoring eye,  
 And o'er the Union which he left it stands  
 Our Cross against the sky! 40

## OUR ANGLO-SAXON TONGUE

JAMES BARRON HOPE

GOOD is the Saxon speech! clear, short, and strong,  
 Its clean-cut words, fit both for prayer and song;  
 Good is this tongue for all the needs of life;  
 Good for sweet words with friend, or child, or wife.  
*Seax* — short sword — and like a sword its sway 5  
 Hews out a path 'mid all the forms of speech,  
 For in itself it hath the power to teach  
 Itself, while many tongues slow fade away.

'T is good for laws; for vows of youth and maid;  
 Good for the preacher; or shrewd folk in trade; 10  
 Good for sea-calls when loud the rush of spray;  
 Good for war-cries where men meet hilt to hilt,  
 And man's best blood like new-trod wine is spilt, —  
 Good for all times, and good for what thou wilt!

A COMMON THOUGHT<sup>1</sup>

HENRY TIMROD

SOMEWHERE on this earthly planet  
In the dust of flowers to be,  
In the dewdrop, in the sunshine,  
Sleeps a solemn day for me.

At this wakeful hour of midnight 5  
I behold it dawn in mist,  
And I hear a sound of sobbing  
Through the darkness — hist! oh, hist!

In a dim and murky chamber,  
I am breathing life away; 10  
Some one draws a curtain softly,  
And I watch the broadening day.

As it purples in the zenith,  
As it brightens on the lawn,  
There's a hush of death about me, 15  
And a whisper, "He is gone!"<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The three following poems by Henry Timrod are printed by courtesy of the B. F. Johnson Publishing Company.

<sup>2</sup> A poem strangely prophetic of the manner of the poet's death.

## ODE

HENRY TIMROD

*Sung on the occasion of decorating the graves of the Confederate Dead,  
at Magnolia Cemetery, Charleston, South Carolina, 1867.*

## I

SLEEP sweetly in your humble graves,  
Sleep, martyrs of a fallen cause ;  
Though yet no marble column craves  
The pilgrim here to pause.

## II

In seeds of laurel in the earth 5  
The blossom of your fame is blown,  
And somewhere, waiting for its birth,  
The shaft is in the stone !

## III

Meanwhile, behalf the tardy years 10  
Which keep in trust your storied tombs,  
Behold ! your sisters bring their tears,  
And these memorial blooms.

## IV

Small tributes ! but your shades will smile 15  
More proudly on these wreaths to-day,  
Than when some cannon-moulded pile  
Shall overlook this bay.

## V

Stoop, angels, hither from the skies !  
There is no holier spot of ground  
Than where defeated valor lies,  
By mourning beauty crowned ! 20

## THE COTTON BOLL

HENRY TIMROD

This poem was written during the war between the States.

WHILE I recline  
At ease beneath  
This immemorial pine,  
Small sphere !  
(By dusky fingers brought this morning here 5  
And shown with boastful smiles),  
I turn thy cloven sheath,  
Through which the soft white fibers peer,  
That, with their gossamer bands,  
Unite, like love, the sea-divided lands, 10  
And slowly, thread by thread,  
Draw forth the folded strands,  
Than which the trembling line,  
By whose frail help yon startled spider fled  
Down the tall spear grass from his swinging bed, 15  
Is scarce more fine ;  
And as the tangled skein  
Unravels in my hands,  
Betwixt me and the noonday light,  
A veil seems lifted, and for miles and miles 20  
The landscape broadens on my sight,  
As, in the little boll, there lurked a spell  
Like that which, in the ocean shell,  
With mystic sound,  
Breaks down the narrow walls that hem us round, 25  
And turns some city lane  
Into the restless main,  
With all his capes and isles !

Yonder bird,  
Which floats, as if at rest, 30  
In those blue tracts above the thunder, where  
No vapors cloud the stainless air,  
And never sound is heard,  
Unless at such rare time  
When, from the City of the Blest, 35  
Rings down some golden chime,  
Sees not from his high place  
So vast a cirque of summer space  
As widens round me in one mighty field,  
Which, rimmed by seas and sands, 40  
Doth hail its earliest daylight in the beams  
Of gray Atlantic dawns ;  
And, broad as realms made up of many lands,  
Is lost afar  
Behind the crimson hills and purple lawns 45  
Of sunset, among plains which roll their streams  
Against the Evening Star !  
And lo !  
To the remotest point of sight,  
Although I gaze upon no waste of snow, 50  
The endless field is white ;  
And the whole landscape glows,  
For many a shining league away,  
With such accumulated light  
As Polar lands would flash beneath a tropic day ! 55  
Nor lack there (for the vision grows,  
And the small charm within my hands —  
More potent even than the fabled one,  
Which oped whatever golden mystery  
Lay hid in fairy wood or magic vale, 60  
The curious ointment of the Arabian tale —  
Beyond all mortal sense

Doth stretch my sight's horizon, and I see,  
Beneath its simple influence,  
As if with Uriel's crown, 65  
I stood in some great temple of the Sun,  
And looked, as Uriel, down !)  
Nor lack there pastures rich and fields all green  
With all the common gifts of God,  
For temperate airs and torrid sheen 70  
Weave Edens of the sod ;  
Through lands which look one sea of billowy gold  
Broad rivers wind their devious ways ;  
A hundred isles in their embraces fold  
A hundred luminous bays ; 75  
And through yon purple haze  
Vast mountains lift their plumèd peaks cloud-crowned ;  
And, save where up their sides the plowman creeps,  
An unhewn forest girds them grandly round,  
In whose dark shades a future navy sleeps ! 80  
Ye Stars, which, though unseen, yet with me gaze  
Upon this loveliest fragment of the earth !  
Thou Sun, that kindlest all thy gentlest rays  
Above it, as to light a favorite hearth !  
Ye Clouds, that in your temples in the west 85  
See nothing brighter than its humblest flowers !  
And you, ye Winds, that on the ocean's breast  
Are kissed to coolness ere ye reach its bowers !  
Bear witness with me in my song of praise,  
And tell the world that, since the world began, 90  
No fairer land hath fired a poet's lays,  
Or given a home to man !

But these are charms already widely blown !  
His be the meed whose pencil's trace  
Hath touched our very swamps with grace, 95



And round whose tuneful way  
 All Southern laurels bloom ;  
 The Poet of "The Woodlands,"<sup>1</sup> unto whom  
 Alike are known  
 The flute's low breathing and the trumpet's tone, 100  
 And the soft west wind's sighs ;  
 But who shall utter all the debt,  
 O land wherein all powers are met  
 That bind a people's heart,  
 The world doth owe thee at this day, 105  
 And which it never can repay,  
 Yet scarcely deigns to own !  
 Where sleeps the poet who shall fitly sing  
 The source wherefrom doth spring  
 That mighty commerce which, confined 110  
 To the mean channels of no selfish mart,  
 Goes out to every shore  
 Of this broad earth, and throngs the sea with ships  
 That bear no thunders ; hushes hungry lips  
 In alien lands ; 115  
 Joins with a delicate web remotest strands ;  
 And gladdening rich and poor,  
 Doth gild Parisian domes,  
 Or feed the cottage smoke of English homes,  
 And only bounds its blessings by mankind ? 120  
 In offices like these thy mission lies,  
 My Country ! and it shall not end  
 As long as rain shall fall and Heaven bend  
 In blue above thee. Though thy foes be hard  
 And cruel as their weapons, it shall guard 125  
 Thy hearthstones as a bulwark ; make thee great  
 In white and bloodless state ;

<sup>1</sup> William Gilmore Simms. His home near Charleston, South Carolina, was called "The Woodlands."

And haply, as the years increase—  
Still working through its humbler reach  
With that large wisdom which the ages teach — 130  
Revive the half-dead dream of universal peace!  
As men who labor in that mine  
Of Cornwall, hollowed out beneath the bed  
Of ocean, when a storm rolls overhead,  
Hear the dull booming of the world of brine 135  
Above them, and a mighty muffled roar  
Of winds and waters, yet toil calmly on,  
And split the rock, and pile the massive ore,  
Or carve a niche or shape the archèd roof;  
So I, as calmly, weave my woof 140  
Of song, chanting the days to come,  
Unsilenced, though the quiet summer air  
Stirs with the bruit of battles, and each dawn  
Wakes from its starry silence to the hum  
Of many gathering armies. Still, 145  
In that we sometimes hear,  
Upon the Northern winds, the voice of woe  
Not wholly drowned in triumph, though I know  
The end must crown us, and a few brief years  
Dry all our tears, 150  
I may not sing too gladly. To thy will  
Resigned, 'O Lord! we cannot all forget  
That there is much even Victory must regret.  
And, therefore, not too long  
From the great burthen of our country's wrong 155  
Delay our just release!  
And, if it may be, save  
These sacred fields of peace  
From stain of patriot or of hostile blood!  
O, help us, Lord! to roll the crimson flood 160  
Back on its course, and while our banners wing

Northward, strike with us ! till the Goth shall cling  
 To his own blasted altar stones, and crave  
 Mercy ; and we shall grant it, and dictate  
 The lenient future of his fate 165  
 There, where some rotting ships and crumbling quays  
 Shall one day mark the Port which ruled the Western  
 seas.<sup>1</sup>

## MY STUDY<sup>2</sup>

PAUL HAMILTON HAYNE

Written before his mansion in Charleston, South Carolina, was destroyed by fire. It was published in 1859.

THIS is my world ! within these narrow walls,  
 I own a princely service. The hot care  
 And tumult of our frenzied life are here  
 But as a ghost and echo ; what befalls  
 In the far mart to me is less than naught ; 5  
 I walk the fields of quiet Arcadies,  
 And wander by the brink of hoary seas,  
 Calmed to the tendance of untroubled thought ;  
 Or if a livelier humor should enhance  
 The slow-time pulse, 't is not for present strife, 10  
 The sordid zeal with which our age is rife,  
 Its mammon conflicts crowned by fraud or chance,  
 But gleamings of the lost, heroic life,  
 Flashed through the gorgeous vistas of romance.

<sup>1</sup> New York, considered by many Southerners at that time as an unjust competitor for trade.

<sup>2</sup> The poems by Paul Hamilton Hayne are printed by courtesy of William H. Hayne, the son of the author.

## THE PINE'S MYSTERY

PAUL HAMILTON HAYNE

"Copse Hill," Hayne's Georgia home after his home in Charleston was sacrificed to war, was surrounded by pines.

## I

LISTEN! the sombre foliage of the Pine,  
A swart Gitana<sup>1</sup> of the woodland trees,  
Is answering what we may but half divine  
To those soft whispers of the twilight breeze!

## II

Passion and mystery murmur through the leaves, 5  
Passion and mystery, touched by deathless pain.  
Whose monotone of long, low anguish grieves  
For something lost that shall not live again!

## THE WILL AND THE WING

PAUL HAMILTON HAYNE

To have the will to soar, but not the wings,  
Eyes fixed forever on a starry height,  
Whence stately shapes of grand imaginings  
Flash down the splendors of imperial light;

And yet to lack the charm that makes them ours, 5  
The obedient vassals of that conquering spell,  
Whose omnipresent and ethereal powers  
Encircle Heaven, nor fear to enter Hell;

This is the doom of Tantalus — the thirst  
For beauty's balmy fount to quench the fires 10

<sup>1</sup> Gitana, a gypsy dancer.

Of the wild passion that our souls have nurst  
In hopeless promptings — unfulfilled desires.

Yet would I rather in the outward state  
Of Song's immortal temple lay me down,  
A beggar basking by that radiant gate, 15  
Than bend beneath the haughtiest empire's crown!

For sometimes, through the bars, my ravished eyes  
Have caught brief glimpses of a life divine,  
And seen afar, mysterious rapture rise  
Beyond the veil that guards the inmost shrine. 20

## A DREAM OF THE SOUTH WINDS

PAUL HAMILTON HAYNE

O FRESH, how fresh and fair  
Through the crystal gulfs of air,  
The fairy South Wind floateth on her subtle wings of  
balm!  
And the green earth lapped in bliss,  
To the magic of her kiss 5  
Seems yearning upward fondly through the golden-  
crested calm!

From the distant Tropic strand,  
Where the billows, bright and bland,  
Go creeping, curling round the palms with sweet,  
faint under-tune,  
From its fields of purpling flowers 10  
Still wet with fragrant showers,  
The happy South Wind lingering sweeps the royal  
blooms of June.

All heavenly fancies rise  
On the perfume of her sighs,  
Which steep the inmost spirit in a languor rare and  
fine, 15  
And a peace more pure than sleep's  
Unto dim, half-conscious deeps,  
Transports me, lulled and dreaming, on its twilight  
tides divine.

Those dreams! ah me! the splendor,  
So mystical and tender, 20  
Wherewith like soft heat-lightnings they gird their  
meaning round,  
And those waters, calling, calling,  
With a nameless charm enthralling,  
Like the ghost of music melting on a rainbow spray  
of sound!

Touch, touch me not, nor wake me, 25  
Lest grosser thoughts o'ertake me,  
From earth receding faintly with her dreary din and  
jars —  
What viewless arms caress me?  
What whispered voices bless me,  
With welcomes dropping dewlike from the weird and  
wondrous stars? 30

Alas! dim, dim, and dimmer  
Grows the preternatural glimmer  
Of that trance the South Wind brought me on her  
subtle wings of balm,  
For behold! its spirit flieth,  
And its fairy murmur dieth, 35  
And the silence closing round me is a dull and soul-  
less calm!

IN HARBOR<sup>1</sup>

PAUL HAMILTON HAYNE

I THINK it is over, over,  
     I think it is over at last,  
 Voices of foeman and lover,  
     The sweet and the bitter have passed :  
 Life, like a tempest of ocean 5  
     Hath outblown its ultimate blast;  
 There's but a faint sobbing seaward  
 While the calm of the tide deepens leeward,  
 And behold ! like the welcoming quiver  
 Of heart-pulses throbbed thro' the river, 10  
     Those lights in the harbor at last,  
     The heavenly harbor at last !

I feel it is over, over !  
     For the winds and the waters surcease ;  
 Ah ! — few were the days of the rover 15  
     That smiled in the beauty of peace !  
 And distant and dim was the omen  
     That hinted redress or release :  
 From the ravage of life, and its riot  
 What marvel I yearn for the quiet 20  
     Which bides in the harbor at last ?  
 For the lights with their welcoming quiver  
 That throbbed through the sanctified river  
     Which girdles the harbor at last,  
     This heavenly harbor at last ? 25

I *know* it is over, over,     •  
     I know it is over at last !

<sup>1</sup> Among his very latest poems.

Down sail! the sheathed anchor uncover,  
For the stress of the voyage has passed:  
Life, like a tempest of ocean 30  
Hath outbreathed its ultimate blast;  
There's but a faint sobbing seaward;  
While the calm of the tide deepens leeward;  
And behold! like the welcoming quiver  
Of heart-pulses throbb'd thro' the river, 35  
Those lights in the harbor at last,  
The heavenly harbor at last!

MARYLAND, MY MARYLAND <sup>1</sup>

JAMES RYDER RANDALL

Written in Louisiana when the author heard of the clash between the Massachusetts troops and the citizens of his native city, Baltimore, April 19, 1861. The poem was written on April 23, 1861.

THE despot's heel is on thy shore,  
Maryland!  
His torch is at thy temple door,  
Maryland!  
Avenge the patriotic gore 5  
That flecked the streets of Baltimore,  
And be the battle queen of yore,  
Maryland, my Maryland!

Hark to an exiled son's appeal,  
Maryland! 10  
My Mother State, to thee I kneel,  
Maryland!

<sup>1</sup> For a full account of this poem, see Introduction to *Poems of James Ryder Randall*, edited by Matthew Page Andrews.



For life and death, for woe and weal,  
Thy peerless chivalry reveal,  
And gird thy beauteous limbs with steel,      15  
Maryland, my Maryland!

Thou wilt not cower in the dust,  
Maryland!  
Thy beaming sword shall never rust,  
Maryland!      20  
Remember Carroll's<sup>1</sup> sacred trust,  
Remember Howard's<sup>2</sup> warlike thrust,  
And all thy slumberers with the just,  
Maryland, my Maryland!

Come! 't is the red dawn of the day,      25  
Maryland!  
Come with thy panoplied array,  
Maryland!  
With Ringgold's<sup>3</sup> spirit for the fray,  
With Watson's<sup>4</sup> blood at Monterey,      30  
With fearless Lowe<sup>5</sup> and dashing May,<sup>6</sup>  
Maryland, my Maryland!

Dear Mother! burst the tyrant's chain,  
Maryland!  
Virginia should not call in vain,      35  
Maryland!

<sup>1</sup> Carroll was a delegate to the Continental Congress that framed the Declaration of Independence.

<sup>2</sup> Howard, Lieutenant-Colonel at the battle of Cowpens.

<sup>3</sup> Ringgold, killed at Palo Alto in the Mexican War.

<sup>4</sup> Watson, Colonel in the Mexican War and killed at Monterey.

<sup>5</sup> Lowe, a soldier in the Mexican War and later Governor of Maryland.

<sup>6</sup> May, a leader at the battle of Monterey.

She meets her sisters on the plain —  
“*Sic semper!*”<sup>1</sup> ’t is the proud refrain  
That baffles minions back amain,  
Maryland! 40  
Arise in majesty again,  
Maryland, my Maryland!

Come! for thy shield is bright and strong,  
Maryland!  
Come! for thy dalliance does thee wrong, 45  
Maryland!  
Come to thine own heroic throng  
Walking with Liberty along,  
And chant thy dauntless slogan-song,  
Maryland, my Maryland! 50

I see the blush upon thy cheek,  
Maryland!  
For thou wast ever bravely meek,  
Maryland!  
But lo! there surges forth a shriek, 55  
From hill to hill, from creek to creek,  
Potomac calls to Chesapeake,  
Maryland, my Maryland!

Thou wilt not yield the Vandal toll,  
Maryland! 60  
Thou wilt not crook to his control,  
Maryland!  
Better the fire upon thee roll,  
Better the shot, the blade, the bowl,  
Than crucifixion of the soul, 65  
Maryland, my Maryland!

<sup>1</sup> *Sic semper tyrannis*, Virginia’s motto.

I hear the distant thunder hum,  
     Maryland!  
 The Old Line bugle, fife, and drum,  
     Maryland! 70  
 She is not dead, nor deaf, nor dumb;  
 Huzza! she spurns the Northern scum!  
 She breathes — she burns! she'll come! she'll  
     come!  
     Maryland, my Maryland!

### THE CONQUERED BANNER<sup>1</sup>

ABRAM J. RYAN

This tribute to the Confederate flag was published in the *Banner of the South*, March, 1868.

FURL that Banner, for 't is weary;  
 Round its staff 't is drooping dreary;  
     Furl it, fold it, it is best;  
 For there's not a man to wave it,  
 And there's not a sword to save it, 5  
 And there's not one left to lave it  
 In the blood which heroes gave it;  
 And its foes now scorn and brave it;  
     Furl it, hide it — let it rest!

Take that Banner down! 't is tattered; 10  
 Broken is its staff and shattered;  
 And the valiant hosts are scattered  
     Over whom it floated high.  
 O! 't is hard for us to fold it!  
 Hard to think there's none to hold it; 15

<sup>1</sup> The four following copyrighted poems by Abram J. Ryan are printed by courtesy of P. J. Kenedy and Sons, New York.

Hard that those who once unrolled it  
Now must furl it with a sigh.

Furl that Banner! furl it sadly!  
Once ten thousands hailed it gladly,  
And ten thousands wildly, madly, 20  
Swore it should forever wave;  
Swore that foeman's sword should never  
Hearts like theirs entwined dissever,  
Till that flag should float forever  
O'er their freedom or their grave! 25

Furl it! for the hands that grasped it,  
And the hearts that fondly clasped it,  
Cold and dead are lying low;  
And that Banner — it is trailing!  
While around it sounds the wailing 30  
Of its people in their woe.

For, though conquered, they adore it!  
Love the cold, dead hands that bore it!  
Weep for those who fell before it!  
Pardon those who trailed and tore it! 35  
But, O! wildly they deplore it,  
Now who furl and fold it so.

Furl that Banner! True, 't is gory,  
Yet 't is wreathed around with glory,  
And 't will live in song and story, 40  
Though its folds are in the dust!  
For its fame on brightest pages,  
Penned by poets and by sages,  
Shall go sounding down the ages —  
Furl its folds though now we must. 45

Furl that Banner, softly, slowly!  
 Treat it gently — it is holy —  
 For it droops above the dead.  
 Touch it not — unfold it never,  
 Let it droop there, furled forever, 50  
 For its people's hopes are fled!

## THE SWORD OF LEE

ABRAM J. RYAN

FORTH from its scabbard, pure and bright,  
 Flashed the sword of Lee!<sup>1</sup>  
 Far in front of the deadly fight,  
 High o'er the brave in the cause of Right,  
 Its stainless sheen, like a beacon light, 5  
 Led us to victory.

Out of its scabbard, where full long  
 It slumbered peacefully,  
 Roused from its rest by the battle's song,  
 Shielding the feeble, smiting the strong, 10  
 Guarding the right, avenging the wrong,  
 Gleamed the sword of Lee.

Forth from its scabbard, high in air  
 Beneath Virginia's sky —  
 And they who saw it gleaming there, 15

<sup>1</sup> Robert E. Lee was born at "Stratford," Westmoreland County, Virginia, January 19, 1807; graduated from the United States Military Academy, of which he was later (1852) Superintendent; in 1861 was offered command of the Federal Army, but resigned his commission and later joined the Confederacy; surrendered his army on April 9, 1865; died at Lexington, Virginia, on October 12, 1870.

And knew who bore it, knelt to swear  
That where that sword led they would dare  
To follow — and to die.

Out of its scabbard ! Never hand  
Waved sword from stain as free ; 20  
Nor purer sword led braver band,  
Nor braver bled for a brighter land,  
Nor brighter land had a cause so grand,  
Nor cause a chief like Lee !

Forth from its scabbard ! How we prayed 25  
That sword might victor be !  
And when our triumph was delayed,  
And many a heart grew sore afraid,  
We still hoped on while gleamed the blade  
Of noble Robert Lee. 30

Forth from its scabbard all in vain  
Bright flashed the sword of Lee ;  
'T is shrouded now in its sheath again,  
It sleeps the sleep of our noble slain,  
Defeated, yet without a stain, 35  
Proudly and peacefully.

## A LAND WITHOUT RUINS

ABRAM J. RYAN

A land without ruins is a land without memories — a land without memories is a land without history. A land that wears a laurel crown may be fair to see ; but twine a few sad cypress leaves around the brow of any land, and be that land barren, beautiless, and bleak, it becomes lovely in its consecrated coronet of sorrow, and it wins the sympathy of the heart and of history. Crowns of roses fade — crowns of thorns endure. Calvaries and crucifixions take deepest hold of hu-

manity — the triumphs of might are transient — they pass and are forgotten — the sufferings of right are graven deepest on the chronicle of nations.

YES, give me the land where the ruins are spread,  
 And the living tread light on the hearts of the dead ;  
 Yes, give me a land that is blest by the dust,  
 And bright with the deeds of the down-trodden just.  
 Yes, give me the land where the battle's red blast     5  
 Has flashed to the future the fame of the past ;  
 Yes, give me the land that hath legends and lays  
 That tell of the memories of long vanished days :  
 Yes, give me a land that hath story and song !  
 Enshrine the strife of the right with the wrong !     10  
 Yes, give me a land with a grave in each spot,  
 And names in the graves that shall not be forgot ;  
 Yes, give me the land of the wreck and the tomb ;  
 There is grandeur in graves — there is glory in gloom ;  
 For out of the gloom future brightness is born,     15  
 As after the night comes the sunrise of morn ;  
 And the graves of the dead with the grass overgrown  
 May yet form the footstool of liberty's throne,  
 And each single wreck in the war-path of night,  
 Shall yet be a rock in the temple of right.     20

## BETTER THAN GOLD

ABRAM J. RYAN

BETTER than grandeur, better than gold,  
 Than rank and titles a thousand fold,  
 Is a healthy body and a mind at ease,  
 And simple pleasures that always please,  
 A heart that can feel for another's woe,     5  
 With sympathies large enough to enfold  
 All men as brothers, is better than gold.

Better than gold is a conscience clear,  
 Though toiling for bread in an humble sphere,  
 Doubly blessed with content and health, 10  
 Untried by the lusts and cares of wealth,  
 Lowly living and lofty thought  
 Adorn and ennoble a poor man's cot ;  
 For mind and morals in nature's plan  
 Are the genuine tests of a gentleman. 15

Better than gold is the sweet repose  
 Of the sons of toil when the labors close ;  
 Better than gold is the poor man's sleep,  
 And the balm that drops on his slumbers deep  
 Bring sleeping draughts on the downy bed, 20  
 Where luxury pillows its aching head,  
 The toiler simple opiate deems  
 A shorter route to the land of dreams.

Better than gold is a thinking mind,  
 That in the realm of books can find 25  
 A treasure surpassing Australian ore,  
 And live with the great and good of yore.  
 The sage's lore and the poet's lay,  
 The glories of empires passed away ;  
 The world's great dream will thus unfold 30  
 And yield a pleasure better than gold.

Better than gold is a peaceful home  
 Where all the fireside characters come,  
 The shrine of love, the heaven of life,  
 Hallowed by mother, or sister, or wife. 35  
 However humble the home may be,  
 Or tried with sorrow by heaven's decree,  
 The blessings that never were bought or sold,  
 And centre there, are better than gold.



ALL QUIET ALONG THE POTOMAC  
TO-NIGHT<sup>1</sup>

"All quiet along the Potomac," they say,  
    "Except now and then a stray picket  
Is shot, as he walks on his beat, to and fro,  
    By a rifleman hid in the thicket.  
'T is nothing — a private or two, now and then,     5  
    Will not count in the news of the battle;  
Not an officer lost — only one of the men,  
    Moaning out, all alone, the death-rattle."

All quiet along the Potomac to-night,  
    Where the soldiers lie peacefully dreaming;     10

<sup>1</sup> This famous poem is accredited to Ethelinda (Elliott) Beers, "Ethel Lynn Beers" (1827-79) and is contained in a volume of 1879 entitled *All's Quiet Along the Potomac, and Other Poems*. The internal evidence points to authorship by a soldier, not by a woman, and by some one acquainted with the locality and conditions, not by an absentee; but the direct evidence is more significant. To quote Dr. C. Alphonso Smith (*The Library of Southern Literature*, vol. 14, p. 6083): "The evidence seems conclusive, however, for Thaddeus Oliver, of Twiggs County, Georgia. The poem was first published unsigned on October 21, 1861, 'in a Northern newspaper.' In *Harper's Weekly*, of November 30, 1861, it reappeared with Mrs. Beers's initials attached. Mr. Oliver, however, wrote the poem in August, 1861, and read it to several friends in camp with him in Virginia. In a letter dated 'Camp 2d Ga. Regt. near Centreville, Va., October 3, 1861,' Mr. John D. Ashton, of Georgia, writing to his wife, says: 'Upon my arrival at home, should I be so fortunate as to obtain the hoped-for furlough, I will read you the touching and beautiful poem mentioned in my letter of last week, "All Quiet Along the Potomac To-night," written by my *girlishly modest* friend, Thaddeus Oliver, of the Buena Vista Guards.' " For further evidence see *Southern Historical Society Papers*, vol. VIII, pp. 255-60.

Their tents in the rays of the clear autumn moon,  
Or the light of the watch-fires, are gleaming.  
A tremulous sigh, as the gentle night-wind  
Through the forest-leaves softly is creeping ;  
While stars up above, with their glittering eyes, 15  
Keep guard — for the army is sleeping.

There 's only the sound of the lone sentry's tread,  
As he tramps from the rock to the fountain,  
And thinks of the two in the low trundle-bed  
Far away in the cot on the mountain. 20  
His musket falls slack — his face, dark and grim,  
Grows gentle with memories tender,  
As he mutters a prayer for the children asleep —  
For their mother — may Heaven defend her !

The moon seems to shine just as brightly as then, 25  
That night, when the love yet unspoken  
Leaped up to his lips — when low-murmured vows  
Were pledged to be ever unbroken.  
Then drawing his sleeve roughly over his eyes,  
He dashes off tears that are welling, 30  
And gathers his gun closer up to its place  
As if to keep down the heart-swelling.

He passes the fountain, the blasted pine tree —  
The footstep is lagging and weary ;  
Yet onward he goes, through the broad belt of light,  
Toward the shades of the forest so dreary. 36  
Hark ! was it the night-wind that rustled the leaves ?  
Was it moonlight so wondrously flashing ?  
It looked like a rifle — “ Ah ! Mary, good-bye ! ”  
And the life-blood is ebbing and plashing. 40

All quiet along the Potomac to-night,  
No sound save the rush of the river ;  
While soft falls the dew on the face of the dead —  
The picket 's off duty forever.

## THE MONEYLESS MAN

HENRY THROOP STANTON

Is there no secret place on the face of the earth  
Where charity dwelleth, where virtue has birth?  
Where bosoms in mercy and kindness will heave,  
When the poor and the wretched shall ask and receive?

Is there no place at all where a knock from the poor  
Will bring a kind angel to open the door? 6

Ah, search the wide world wherever you can,  
There is no open door for a Moneyless Man!

Go, look in yon hall where the chandelier's light  
Drives off with its splendor the darkness of night, 10  
Where the rich hanging velvet in shadowy fold  
Sweeps gracefully down with its trimmings of gold,  
And the mirrors of silver take up, and renew,  
In long lighted vistas the 'wildering view:  
Go there! at the banquet, and find if you can, 15  
A welcoming smile for a Moneyless Man!

Go, look in yon church of the cloud-reaching spire,  
Which gives to the sun his same look of red fire,  
Where the arches and columns are gorgeous within,  
And the walls seem as pure as a soul without sin; 20  
Walk down the long aisles, see the rich and the great  
In the pomp and the pride of their worldly estate;

Walk down in your patches, and find, if you can,  
Who opens a pew to a Moneyless Man.

Go, look in the Banks, where Mammon has told      25  
His hundreds and thousands of silver and gold ;  
Where, safe from the hands of the starving and poor,  
Lies pile upon pile of the glittering ore !  
Walk up to their counters — ah, there you may stay  
Till your limbs grow old, till your hairs grow gray,  
And you 'll find at the Banks not one of the clan      31  
With money to lend to a Moneyless Man !

Go, look to yon Judge, in his dark-flowing gown,  
With the scales wherein law weigheth equity down ;  
Where he frowns on the weak and smiles on the strong,  
And punishes right whilst he justifies wrong ;      36  
Where juries their lips to the Bible have laid,  
To render a verdict — they 've already made ;  
Go there, in the court-room, and find if you can,  
Any law for the cause of a Moneyless Man ;      40

Then go to your hovel — no raven has fed  
The wife who has suffered too long for her bread ;  
Kneel down by her pallet, and kiss the death-frost  
From the lips of the angel your poverty lost ;  
Then turn in your agony upward to God,      45  
And bless while it smites you the chastening rod,  
And you 'll find, at the end of your life's little span,  
There 's a welcome above for a Moneyless Man !

SOMEBODY'S DARLING<sup>1</sup>

MARIE LA COSTE

INTO a ward of the whitewashed halls  
Where the dead and the dying lay, —  
Wounded by bayonets, shells, and balls, —  
Somebody's darling was borne one day.  
Somebody's darling ! so young and so brave :  
Wearing still on his pale sweet face —  
Soon to be hid by the dust of the grave —  
The lingering light of his boyhood's grace.

Matted and damp are the curls of gold  
Kissing the snow of that fair young brow ; 10  
Pale are the lips of delicate mold, —  
Somebody's darling is dying now.  
Back from the beautiful blue-veined brow  
Brush every wandering silken thread,  
Cross his hands on his bosom now, — 15  
Somebody's darling is still and dead !

Kiss him once for somebody's sake ;  
Murmur a prayer, both soft and low ;  
One bright curl from its fair mates take —  
They were somebody's pride, you know. 20  
Somebody's hand has rested there ;  
Was it a mother's, soft and white ?  
Or have the lips of a sister fair  
Been baptized in those waves of light ?

God knows best ! He was somebody's love ; 25  
Somebody's heart enshrined him there —

<sup>1</sup> Written between the years 1861-65.

Somebody wafted his name above,  
Night and morn, on the wings of prayer.  
Somebody wept when he marched away,  
Looking so handsome, brave, and grand; 30  
Somebody's kiss on his forehead lay,  
Somebody clung to his parting hand.

Somebody's watching and waiting for him,  
Yearning to hold him again to her heart;  
And there he lies — with his blue eyes dim, 35  
And the smiling, child-like lips apart.  
Tenderly bury the fair young dead,  
Pausing to drop on his grave a tear;  
Carve on the wooden slab o'er his head,  
“*Somebody's darling slumbers here!*” 40

## BALLAD OF TREES AND THE MASTER<sup>1</sup>

SIDNEY LANIER

INTO the woods my Master went,  
Clean forspent, forspent,  
Into the woods my Master came,  
Forspent with love and shame.  
But the olives they were not blind to Him, 5  
The little gray leaves were kind to Him:  
The thorn tree had a mind to Him  
When into the woods He came.

Out of the woods my Master went,  
And He was well content. 10  
Out of the woods my Master came,

<sup>1</sup> This poem and *The Mockingbird* are printed by courtesy of Charles Scribner's Sons, publishers of Lanier's *Poems*.

Content with death and shame.

When Death and Shame would woo Him last,

From under the trees they drew Him last :

'T was on a tree they slew Him last, 15

When out of the woods He came.

## THE MOCKINGBIRD

SIDNEY LANIER

SUPERB and sole, upon a plumèd spray

That q'er the general leafage boldly grew,

He summ'd the woods in song ; or typic drew

The watch of hungry hawks, the lone dismay

Of languid doves when long their lovers stray, 5

And all birds' passion-plays that sprinkle dew

At morn in brake or bosky avenue.

Whate'er birds did or dreamed, this bird could say.

Then down he shot, bounced airily along

The sward, twitched in a grasshopper, made song 10

Midflight, perched, prinked, and to his art again.

Sweet Science, this large riddle read me plain :

How may the death of that dull insect be

The life of yon trim Shakespeare on the tree ?

## POE'S COTTAGE AT FORDHAM

JOHN HENRY BONER

Edgar Allan Poe, with his wife, Virginia Clemm, and her mother, lived in a small cottage at Fordham, then outside of the city of New York, from the early summer of 1846 to 1847. Virginia Poe died there on January 30, 1847.

HERE lived the soul enchanted  
By melody of song ;  
Here dwelt the spirit haunted  
By a demoniac throng ;  
Here sang the lips elated ; 5  
Here grief and death were sated ;  
Here loved and here unmated  
Was he, so frail, so strong.

Here wintry winds and cheerless  
The dying firelight blew, 10  
While he whose song was peerless  
Dreamed the drear midnight through,  
And from dull embers chilling  
Crept shadows darkly filling  
The silent place, and thrilling 15  
His fancy as they grew.

Here, with brow bared to heaven,  
In starry night he stood,  
With the lost star of seven  
Feeling sad brotherhood. 20  
Here in the sobbing showers  
Of dark autumnal hours  
He heard suspected powers  
Shriek through the stormy wood.



From visions of Apollo 25  
And of Astarte's bliss,  
He gazed into the hollow  
And hopeless vale of Dis;  
And though earth were surrounded  
By heaven, it still was mounded 30  
With graves. His soul had sounded  
The dolorous abyss.

Proud, mad, but not defiant,  
He touched at heaven and hell.  
Fate found a rare soul pliant 35  
And rung her changes well.  
Alternately his lyre,  
Stranded with strings of fire,  
Led earth's most happy choir  
Or flashed with Israfel.<sup>1</sup> 40

No singer of old story  
Luting accustomed lays,  
No harper for new glory,  
No mendicant for praise,  
He struck high chords and splendid, 45  
Wherein were fiercely blended  
Tones that unfinished ended  
With his unfinished days.

Here through this lowly portal,  
Made sacred by his name, 50  
Unheralded immortal  
The mortal went and came.

<sup>1</sup> Poe prefixes to his poem *Israfel* a quotation from the *Koran* in which this angel is referred to as the spirit of song.

And fate that then denied him,  
And envy that decried him,  
And malice that belied him, 55  
Have cenotaphed his fame.

COUNSEL <sup>1</sup>

MOLLIE E. MOORE DAVIS

If thou should'st bid thy friend farewell,  
But for one night though that farewell should be,  
Press thou his hand in thine ; how canst thou tell  
How far from thee

Fate, or caprice, may lead his feet 5  
Ere that to-morrow come ? Men have been known  
Lightly to turn the corner of a street,  
And days have grown

To months, and months to lagging years,  
Before they looked in loving eyes again. 10  
Parting, at best, is underlaid with tears —  
With tears and pain.

Therefore, lest sudden death should come between,  
Or time, or distance, clasp with pleasure true  
The palms of him who goeth forth. Unseen, 15  
Fate goeth, too !

Yea, find thee always time to say  
Some earnest word betwixt the idle talk,  
Lest with thee henceforth, night and day,  
Regret should walk. 20

<sup>1</sup> Printed by courtesy of Mr. Thomas E. Davis.

NECTAR AND AMBROSIA<sup>1</sup>

MAURICE THOMPSON

IF I were a poet, my sweetest song  
Should have the bouquet of scuppernong,  
With a racy smack in every line  
From the savage juice of the muscadine.

The russet persimmon, the brown papaw, 5  
The red wild plum and the summer haw,  
Serviceberries and mandrake fruit,  
Sassafras bark and ginseng root,  
Should make my verse pungent and sweet by turns ;  
And the odor of grass and the freshness of ferns, 10  
The kernels of nuts and the resins of trees,  
The nectar distilled by the wild honey-bees,  
Should be thrown in together, to flavor my words  
With the zest of the woods and the joy of the birds !

Who sings by note, from the page of a book, 15  
So sweet a tune as the brawl of a brook ?  
Shall Homer, or shall Anacreon  
Suggest as much as the wind or the sun ?  
Give me a shell from the sea so green,  
Cut me a flute from the Aulocrene, 20  
Give me Nature's sweets and sour,  
Her barks and nuts, her fruits and flowers ;  
And all the music I make shall be  
Good as the sap of the maple-tree,  
Whilst a rare bouquet shall fill my song 25  
From the muscadine and the scuppernong.

<sup>1</sup> From *Poems*, copyright 1892, by Maurice Thompson, published by Houghton Mifflin Company.

THE BLUEBIRD<sup>1</sup>

MAURICE THOMPSON

WHEN ice is thawed and snow is gone,  
And racy sweetness floods the trees ;  
When snow-birds from the hedge have flown,  
And on the hive-porch swarm the bees —  
Drifting down the first warm wind 5  
That thrills the earliest days of spring,  
The bluebird seeks our maple groves,  
And charms them into tasselling.

He sits among the delicate sprays,  
With mists of splendor round him drawn, 10  
And through the spring's prophetic veil  
Sees summer's rich fulfillment dawn ;  
He sings, and his is nature's voice —  
A gush of melody sincere  
From that great fount of harmony 15  
Which thaws and runs when spring is here,

Short is his song, but strangely sweet  
To ears aweary of the low,  
Dull tramp of Winter's sullen feet,  
Sandalled in ice and muffed in snow : 20  
Short is his song, but through it runs  
A hint of dithyrambs yet to be —  
A sweet suggestiveness that has  
The influence of prophecy.

From childhood I have nursed a faith 25  
In bluebird's songs and winds of spring ;

<sup>1</sup> From *Poems*, copyright 1892, by Maurice Thompson, published by Houghton Mifflin Company.

They tell me after frost and death  
 There comes a time of blossoming ;  
 And after snow and cutting sleet,  
 The cold, stern mood of Nature yields 30  
 To tender warmth, when bare pink feet  
 Of children press her greening fields.

Sing strong and clear, O bluebird dear !  
 While all the land with splendour fills,  
 While maples gladden in the vales 35  
 And plum-trees blossom on the hills :  
 Float down the wind on shining wings,  
 And do thy will by grove and stream,  
 While through my life spring's freshness runs  
 Like music through a poet's dream. 40

## REGRET<sup>1</sup>

FRANCES CHRISTINE TIERNAN

If I had known, O loyal heart,  
 When hand to hand, we said farewell,  
 How for all time our paths would part,  
 What shadow o'er our friendship fell,  
 I should have clasped your hand so close 5  
 In the warm pressure of my own,  
 That memory still would keep its grasp,  
 If I had known.

If I had known, when far and wide,  
 We loitered through the summer land, 10  
 What Presence wandered by our side,  
 And o'er you stretched its awful hand,

<sup>1</sup> Written in memory of Julian Fairfax, M.A., University of Virginia, 1861. Printed by courtesy of the author.

I should have hushed my careless speech,  
To listen well to every tone  
That from your lips fell low and sweet, 15  
If I had known.

If I had known, when your kind eyes  
Met mine in parting, true and sad —  
Eyes gravely tender, gently wise,  
And earnest rather more than glad — 20  
How soon the lids would lie above,  
As cold and white as sculptured stone,  
I should have treasured every glance,  
If I had known.

If I had known how from the strife 25  
Of fears, hopes, passions here below,  
Unto a purer, higher life,  
That you were called, O friend, to go,  
I should have stayed all foolish tears,  
And hushed each idle sigh and moan, 30  
To bid you a last, long God-speed,  
If I had known.

If I had known to what strange place,  
What mystic, distant, silent shore,  
You calmly turned your steadfast face 35  
What time your footsteps left my door,  
I should have forged a golden link  
To bind the heart so constant grown,  
And kept it constant even there,  
If I had known. 40

If I had known that until Death  
Shall with his fingers touch my brow,

And still the quickening of the breath  
 That stirs with life's full meaning now,  
 So long my feet must tread the way 45  
 Of our accustomed paths alone,  
 I should have prized your presence more,  
 If I had known.

If I had known how soon for you  
 Drew near the ending of the fight, 50  
 And on your vision, fair and new,  
 Eternal peace dawned into sight,  
 I should have begged, as love's last gift,  
 That you before God's great white throne  
 Would pray for your poor friend on earth, 55  
 If I had known.

### INTIMATIONS <sup>1</sup>

JOHN BANISTER TABB

I KNEW the flowers had dreamed of you,  
 And hailed the morning with regret;  
 For all their faces with the dew  
 Of vanished joy were wet.

I knew the winds had passed your way, 5  
 Though not a sound the truth betrayed;  
 About their pinions all the day  
 A summer fragrance stayed.

And so, awakening or asleep,  
 A memory of lost delight 10  
 By day the sightless breezes keep,  
 And silent flowers by night.

<sup>1</sup> The three following poems by John B. Tabb are printed by courtesy of Small, Maynard and Company, Inc.

## KEATS

JOHN BANISTER TABB

UPON thy tomb 't is graven, "Here lies one  
Whose name is writ in water." Could there be  
A flight of Fancy fitlier feigned for thee,  
A fairer motto for her favorite son?  
Now crested proud in tidal majesty, 5  
Now tranquil as the twilight reverie  
Of some dim lake the white moon looks upon,  
While teems the world with silence. Even there,  
In each Protean rainbow-tint that stains  
The breathing canvas of the atmosphere 10  
We read an exhalation of thy strains:  
Thus, on the scroll of Nature, everywhere,  
Thy name, a deathless syllable, remains.

## KILLDEE

JOHN BANISTER TABB

KILLDEE! KILLDEE! far o'er the lea  
At twilight comes the cry.  
Killdee! a marsh-mate answereth  
Across the shallow sky.

Killdee! Killdee! thrills over me 5  
A rhapsody of light,  
As star to star gives utterance  
Between the day and night.

Killdee! Killdee! O Memory,  
The twin birds, Joy and Pain, 10  
Like shadows parted by the sun,  
At twilight meet again!



A TRYSTING-PLACE<sup>1</sup>

JOHN BANISTER TABB

As stars amid the darkness seen,  
 When flows the deepening dawn between  
     To cover them from sight,  
 O'erleap the spaces of the dark,  
 And, spark to quickening sister-spark,      5  
     Commingle in the light ;

E'en so a solitary way  
 Do we, Beloved, day by day,  
     In weariness and pain,  
 Climb, desolate, from steep to steep,      10  
 Till, in the shadowy vale of Sleep,  
     Our spirits blend again.

THE WIND-STORM<sup>2</sup>

MARGUERITE E. EASTER

ALL through the night the south wind blew. When  
     first  
 I marked the tumult, 't was as if a crowd  
 From far away approached with voice that loud  
 And louder grew, and only paused to burst  
 Right at my gate, where for a while it nursed      5  
     Itself, reposing on the leaf-strewn sod  
     Complacently ; till of a sudden, shod  
 With strength, it strode around and, manlike, cursed

<sup>1</sup> From a manuscript in the possession of Dr. William Hand Browne, of Johns Hopkins University.

<sup>2</sup> This poem and *Maple Leaves* are printed by permission of Arthur M. Easter.

That which it hurt. The maples turned one way  
Their white-faced leaves and looked about to  
flee 10

Before its rage ; the bushes all got gray  
And grisly, as they crept on hand and knee ;  
And the whipped clouds, of tears and speech  
bereft,  
Sullen and aimless, fled to right and left.

## MAPLE LEAVES

MARGUERITE E. EASTER

ON smooth-skinned, sappy boughs of darker brown  
The woolly wads of buds are folded down,  
Each swaddled in a rumpled, fuzzy gown.

The chilling breezes cannot get to them,  
Thus closely cuddled to the mother stem, 5  
Their feet wrapped in their red frock's ruffled hem.

Betimes their yellow tendrils looser curl,  
Betimes their fan-shaped follicles unfurl ;  
They 're growing stealthily, as grows a girl.

Waked by the bluebird's chirp, some balmy day, 10  
They 'll burst the sheaths that bind them and display  
Themselves, green-kirtled, to the eyes of May.

THE GRAPEVINE SWING <sup>1</sup>

SAMUEL MINTURN PECK

WHEN I was a boy on the old plantation,  
 Down by the deep bayou,  
 The fairest spot of all creation,  
 Under the arching blue ;  
 When the wind came over the cotton and corn,      5  
 To the long slim loop I 'd spring  
 With brown feet bare, and a hat brim torn,  
 And swing in the grapevine swing.

Swinging in the grapevine swing,  
 Laughing where the wild birds sing,      10  
 I dream and sigh  
 For the days gone by,  
 Swinging in the grapevine swing !

Out — o'er the water-lilies bonnie and bright,  
 Back — to the moss-grown tree ;      15  
 I shouted and laughed with a heart as light  
 As a wild rose tossed by the breeze.  
 The mocking-bird joined in my reckless glee,  
 I longed for no angel's wing —  
 I was just as near heaven as I wanted to be      20  
 Swinging in the grapevine swing.

Swinging in the grapevine swing,  
 Laughing where the wild birds sing,  
 O to be a boy  
 With a heart full of joy,      25  
 Swinging in the grapevine swing !

<sup>1</sup> From *Rings and Love Knots*, copyright, 1892, by Frederick A. Stokes Company.

I 'm weary at noon, I 'm weary at night,  
 I 'm fretted and sore at heart,  
 And care is sowing my locks with white  
 As I wend through the fevered mart. 30  
 I 'm tired of the world, with its pride and pomp,  
 And fame seems a worthless thing.  
 I 'd barter it all for one day's romp,  
 And a swing in the grapevine swing.

Swinging in the grapevine swing, 35  
 Laughing where the wild birds sing,  
 I would I were away  
 From the world to-day,  
 Swinging in the grapevine swing!

VERNAL PROPHECIES<sup>1</sup>

WILLIAM HAMILTON HAYNE

TO-DAY the wind has a milder range,  
 And seems to hint of a secret change;  
 For the gossip breezes bring to me  
 The delicate odor of buds to be  
 In the gardens and groves of Spring. 5

Those forces of nature we cannot see —  
 The procreant power in plant and tree,  
 Shall bring at last to the waiting thorn  
 The wealth of the roses yet unborn  
 In the gardens and groves of Spring. 10

The early grass in a sheltered nook  
 Unsheathes its blades near the forest brook;

<sup>1</sup> This poem and *A Sea Lyric* are printed by courtesy of the author.

In the first faint green of the elm I see  
A gracious token of leaves to be  
In the gardens and groves of Spring. 15

The peach-trees brighten the river's brink,  
With their dainty blossoms of white and pink,  
And over the orchard there comes to me  
The subtle fragrance of fruit to be  
In the gardens and groves of Spring. 20

The rigor of winter has passed away,  
While the earth seems yearning to meet her May,  
And the voice of a bird in melodious glee  
Foretells the sweetness of songs to be  
In the gardens and groves of Spring. 25

## A SEA LYRIC

WILLIAM HAMILTON HAYNE

THERE is no music that man has heard  
Like the voice of the minstrel Sea,  
Whose major and minor chords are fraught  
With infinite mystery ;  
For the Sea is a harp, and the winds of God 5  
Play over his rhythmic breast,  
And bear on the sweep of their mighty wings  
The song of a vast unrest.

There is no passion that man has sung,  
Like the love of the deep-souled Sea, 10  
Whose tide responds to the Moon's soft light  
With marvelous melody ;

For the Sea is a harp, and the winds of God  
 Play over his rhythmic breast,  
 And bear on the sweep of their mighty wings 15  
 The song of a vast unrest.

There is no sorrow that man has known,  
 Like the grief of the worldless Main,  
 Whose Titan bosom forever throbs  
 With an untranslated pain; 20  
 For the Sea is a harp, and the winds of God  
 Play over his rhythmic breast,  
 And bear on the sweep of their mighty wings  
 The song of a vast unrest.

TO MY COMRADE TREE<sup>1</sup>

DANSKE DANDRIDGE

"The tree is grown that shall yield to each . . . his 'last narrow  
 house and dark.'" — *County Parson*.

REMOTE in the woods where the thrushes chant;  
 Or on some lonely mountain slope;  
 Or in a copse, the cuckoo's haunt —  
 With fingers pointing to the cope,  
 There stands a tree, there stands a tree, 5  
 Must fall before they bury me.

O waiting heart, where'er thou art,  
 At last thy dust with mine shall blend;  
 For though we spend our days apart,  
 We come together at the end; 10  
 And thou with me, and I with thee,  
 Must lie in perfect unity.

<sup>1</sup> Printed by courtesy of the author.

Within a cramped confine of space,  
And owning naught of earth beside,  
That heart must be my dwelling-place 15  
For whom the world was not too wide.  
A new-time Dryad, mine must be  
The shape that shall inhabit thee.

Perchance in some lone wandering  
On thine old roots I may have lain, 20  
And heard above the wood-birds sing,  
While God looked down upon us twain;  
And did I feel no thrill, with thee,  
Of fellowship and sympathy?

Is thy strong heart ne'er wearied out, 25  
With standing 'neath the overfreight  
Of boughs that compass thee about,  
With mass of green, or white, a-weight?  
O patient tree, O patient tree!  
Dost never long for rest, like me? 30

I know thou spreadest grateful shade  
When fierce the noontide sun doth beat;  
And birds their nests in thee have made,  
And cattle rested at thy feet:  
Heaven grant I make this life of mine 35  
As beautiful and brave as thine!

And when thy circling cloak is doffed,  
Thou standest on the storm-swept sod  
And liftest thy long arms aloft  
In mute appealing to thy God: 40  
Appeal for me, appeal for me,  
That I may stand as steadfastly.

Let me fulfil my destiny  
 And calmly wait for thee, O friend !  
 For thou must fall, and I must die, 45  
 And come together at the end —  
 To quiet slumbering addressed ;  
 Shut off from storm ; shut in for rest.

Thus lying in God's mighty hand  
 While his great purposes unfold, 50  
 We 'll feel, as was from Chaos planned,  
 His breath inform our formless mould ;  
 New shape for thee, new life for me,  
 For both, a vast eternity.

## THE WHIPPOORWILL<sup>1</sup>

MADISON CAWEIN

This bird is familiar to all Southerners and is generally associated with sadness and with negro superstitions.

ABOVE long woodland ways that led  
 To dells the stealthy twilights tread  
 The west was hot geranium-red ;  
 And still, and still,  
 Along old lanes, the locusts sow 5  
 With clustered curls the May times know,  
 Out of the crimson afterglow,  
 We heard the homeward cattle low,  
 And then the far-off, far-off woe  
 Of "whippoorwill!" of "whippoorwill!" 10

Beneath the idle beechen boughs  
 We heard the cow-bells of the cows

<sup>1</sup> This poem and *Evening on the Farm* are printed by courtesy of the author.



Come slowly jangling toward the house ;  
 And still, and still,  
 Beyond the light that would not die 15  
 Out of the scarlet-haunted sky,  
 Beyond the evening star's white eye  
 Of glittering chalcedony,  
 Drained out of dusk the plaintive cry  
 Of "whippoorwill!" of "whippoorwill!" 20

What is there in the moon, that swims  
 A naked bosom o'er the limbs,  
 That all the wood with magic dims?  
 While still, while still,  
 Among the trees whose shadows grope 25  
 'Mid ferns and flow'rs the dewdrops ope —  
 Lost in faint deeps of heliotrope  
 Above the clover-scented slope —  
 Retreats, despairing past all hope,  
 The whippoorwill, the whippoorwill. 30

## EVENING ON THE FARM

MADISON CAWEIN

FROM out the hills where twilight stands,  
 Above the shadowy pasture-lands,  
 With strained and strident cry,  
 Beneath pale skies that sunset bands,  
 The bull-bats fly. 5

A cloud hangs over, strange of shape,  
 And, colored like the half-ripe grape,  
 Seems some uneven stain  
 On heaven's azure, thin as crape,  
 And blue as rain. 10

By-ways, that sunset's sardonyx  
O'erflares, and gates the farm-boy clicks,  
Through which the cattle came,  
The mullein's stalks seem giant wicks  
Of downy flame. 15

From woods no glimmer enters in,  
Above the streams that, wandering, win  
From out the violet hills,  
Those haunters of the dusk begin,  
The whippoorwills. 20

Adown the dark the firefly marks  
Its flight in golden-emerald sparks;  
And, loosened from its chain,  
The shaggy watch-dog bounds and barks,  
And barks again. 25

Each breeze brings scents of hill-heaped hay;  
And now an owlet, far away,  
Cries twice or thrice, "T-o-o-w-h-o-o-";  
And cool dim moths of mottled gray  
Flit through the dew. 30

The silence sounds its frog-bassoon,  
Where, on the woodland creek's lagoon,  
Pale as a ghostly girl  
Lost 'mid the trees, looks down the moon,  
With face of pearl. 35

Within the shed where logs, late hewed,  
Smell forest-sweet, and chips of wood  
Make blurs of white and brown,  
The brood-hen huddles her warm brood  
Of teetering down. 40

The clattering guineas in the tree  
Din for a time ; and quietly  
    The hen-house, near the fence,  
Sleeps, save for some brief rivalry  
    Of cocks and hens. 45

A cow-bell tinkles by the rails,  
Where, streaming white in foaming pails,  
    Milk makes an uddery sound ;  
While overhead the black bat trails  
    Around and round. 50

The night is still. The slow cows chew  
A drowsy cud. The bird that flew  
    And sang is in its nest.  
It is the time of falling dew,  
    Of dreams and rest. 55

The brown bees sleep ; and round the walk,  
The garden path, from stalk to stalk  
    The bungling beetle booms,  
Where two soft shadows stand and talk  
    Among the blooms. 60

The stars are thick ; the light is dead  
That dyed the west ; and Drowsyhead,  
    Tuning his cricket-pipe,  
Nods, and some apple, round and red,  
    Drops over-ripe. 65

Now down the road, that shambles by,  
A window, shining like an eye  
    Through climbing rose and gourd,  
Shows where Toil sups and these things lie —  
    His heart and hoard. 70

OPPORTUNITY<sup>1</sup>

WALTER MALONE

THEY do me wrong who say I come no more  
When once I knock and fail to find you in ;  
For every day I stand outside your door,  
And bid you wake, and rise to fight and win.

Wail not for precious chances passed away, 5  
Weep not for golden ages on the wane !  
Each night I burn the records of the day —  
At sunrise every soul is born again !

Laugh like a boy at splendors that have sped,  
To vanished joys be blind and deaf and dumb ; 10  
My judgments seal the dead past with its dead,  
But never bind a moment yet to come.

Though deep in mire, wring not your hands and weep ;  
I lend my arm to all who say " I can ! "  
No shame-faced outcast ever sank so deep, 15  
But yet might rise and be again a man !

Dost thou behold thy lost youth all aghast ?  
Dost reel from righteous Retribution's blow ?  
Then turn from blotted archives of the past,  
And find the future's pages white as snow. 20

Art thou a mourner ? Rouse thee from thy spell ;  
Art thou a sinner ? Sins may be forgiven ;  
Each morning gives thee wings to flee from hell,  
Each night a star to guide thy feet to heaven.

<sup>1</sup> This poem was written before that one by the late Senator J. J. Ingalls, to which otherwise it would seem a reply. Printed by courtesy of the author, as also is *Florida Nocturne*.

## FLORIDA NOCTURNE

WALTER MALONE

THROUGH midnight shadows purple-brown,  
The stars are peeping open-eyed ;  
There in her glowing, silvery gown  
The moon comes like a radiant bride.  
Now sweet and clear 5  
From citron coppice near,  
I hear a mocking-bird repine.  
In gurgle, gurgle, gurgle of his melodies divine.

From lemon orchards, starred with blooms,  
And bending low with fragrant fruit, 10  
Soft odors haunt the purple glooms  
Like whispers of a lover's lute.  
I wait alone  
For you, for you, my own,  
With love more spirit-like and sweet 15  
Than all the fragile blossoms that I scatter at your  
feet.

Through green pomegranate trees  
I see the swelling globes of gold ;  
Through jasmine vines I feel the breeze  
Trip like a cherub, silken-stoled ; 20  
Magnolias loom  
With creamy clouds of bloom ;  
With pining they are pale, my dear,  
But not more pale with pining than the one who waits  
you here.

The orange fruit swings on the trees, 25  
The sprays of orange scent the air ;

Gold apples of Hesperides,  
 I bring their blooms to wreathe your hair!  
 Hark to the trill  
 Of yon lone whip-poor-will, 30  
 Reminding by his mournful tune  
 That Youth and Love and Joy must pass, so soon, so  
 soon, so soon!

The orange odors soon must faint,  
 The lemon blossoms soon must die,  
 The mocking-bird must end his plaint, 35  
 Magnolias, fading, flutter by.  
 Then come, sweet mate,  
 Before it be too late!  
 While Youth is blissful, Love divine,  
 O maiden of the flower-like face, be mine, be mine, be  
 mine! 40

## THE VULTURE AND HIS SHADOW<sup>1</sup>

HARRY STILLWELL EDWARDS

ALL the day long we roam, we roam,  
 My shadow fleet and I;  
 One searches all the land and sea,  
 And one the trackless sky;  
 But when the taint of death ascends 5  
 My airy flight to greet,  
 As friends around the festal board,  
 We meet! we meet! we meet!

Ah! none can read the sign we read,  
 No eye can fathom the gales, 10

<sup>1</sup> Printed by courtesy of the author.

No tongue can whisper our secret deed,  
 For dead men tell no tales.  
 The spot on the plains is miles away ;  
 But our wings are broad and fleet —  
 The wave-tossed speck in the eye of day 15  
 Is far — but we meet ! we meet !

The voice of the battle is haste, oh, haste !  
 And down the wind we speed ;  
 The voice of the wreck moans up from the deep,  
 And we search the rank sea weed. 20  
 The maiden listens the livelong day  
 For the fall of her lover's feet ;  
 She wonders to see us speeding by —  
 She would die, if she saw us meet !

## L'ENVOI

Sweeping in circles, my shadow and I, 25  
 Leaving no mark on the land or sky,  
 When the double circles are all complete,  
 At the bedside of death we meet ! we meet !

DREAMING IN THE TRENCHES<sup>1</sup>

WILLIAM GORDON McCABE

I PICTURE her there in the quaint old room,  
 Where the fading fire-light starts and falls,  
 Alone in the twilight's tender gloom,  
 With the shadows that dance on the dim-lit walls.

Alone, while those faces look silently down 5  
 From their antique frames in a grim repose —

<sup>1</sup> Petersburg Trenches, 1864. Printed by courtesy of the author.

Slight scholarly Ralph in his Oxford gown,  
And stanch Sir Alan, who died for Montrose.<sup>1</sup>

There are gallants gay in crimson and gold,  
There are smiling beauties with powdered hair, 10  
But she sits there, fairer a thousand-fold,  
Leaning dreamily back in her low arm-chair.

And the roseate shadows of fading light  
Softly clear, steal over the sweet young face,  
Where a woman's tenderness blends to-night 15  
With the guileless pride of a knightly race.

Her small hands lie clasped in a listless way  
On the old *Romance* — which she holds on her  
knee —  
Of *Tristram*, the bravest of knights in the fray,  
And *Iseult*, who waits by the sounding sea. 20

And her proud, dark eyes wear a softened look  
As she watches the dying embers fall;  
Perhaps she dreams of the knight in the book,  
Perhaps of the pictures that smile on the wall.

What fancies I wonder are thronging her brain, 25  
For her cheeks flush warm with a crimson glow!  
Perhaps — ah! me, how foolish and vain!  
But I'd give my life to believe it so!

Well, whether I ever march home again  
To offer my love and a stainless name, 30  
Or whether I die at the head of my men —  
I'll be true to the end all the same.

<sup>1</sup> James Graham, Marquis of Montrose (1612–50), the poet, and great soldier and supporter of Charles I.



THE LAND WHERE WE WERE DREAMING<sup>1</sup>

DANIEL BEDINGER LUCAS

FAIR were our nation's visions, and as grand  
As ever floated out of fancy-land ;  
Children were we in simple faith,  
But god-like children, whom nor death,  
Nor threat of danger drove from honor's path — 5  
In the land where we were dreaming!

Proud were our men as pride of birth could render,  
As violets our women pure and tender ;  
And when they spoke, their voices' thrill  
At evening hushed the whip-poor-will ; 10  
At morn the mocking bird was mute and still,  
In the land where we were dreaming!

And we had graves that covered more of glory,  
Than ever taxed the lips of ancient story ;  
And in our dream we wove the thread 15  
Of principles for which had bled,  
And suffered long our own immortal dead,  
In the land where we were dreaming!

Tho' in our land we had both bond and free,  
Both were content, and so God let them be ; 20  
Till Northern glances, slanting down,  
With envy viewed our harvest sun —  
But little recked we, for we still slept on,  
In the land where we were dreaming!

<sup>1</sup> Written in Canada, where he had gone to defend his friend John Yates Beall, attainted of treason, after General Lee's surrender. This poem was first published in the *Montreal Gazette*. Printed by courtesy of Miss Virginia Lucas.

Our sleep grew troubled, and our dreams grew wild ; 25  
 Red meteors flashed across our heaven's field ;  
 Crimson the Moon ; between the Twins  
 Barbed arrows flew in circling lanes  
 Of light ; red Comets tossed their fiery manes  
 O'er the land where we were dreaming ! 30

Down from her eagle height smiled Liberty,  
 And waved her hand in sign of victory ;  
 The world approved, and everywhere,  
 Except where growled the Russian bear,  
 The brave, the good and just gave us their prayer, 35  
 For the land where we were dreaming !

High o'er our heads a starry flag was seen,  
 Whose field was blanched, and spotless in its sheen ;  
 Chivalry's cross its union bears,  
 And by his scars each vet'ran swears 40  
 To bear it on in triumph through the wars,  
 In the land where we were dreaming !

We fondly thought a Government was ours —  
 We challenged place among the world's great powers ;  
 We talk'd in sleep of rank, commission, 45  
 Until so life-like grew the vision,  
 That he who dared to doubt but met derision,  
 In the land where we were dreaming !

A figure came among us as we slept —  
 At first he knelt, then slowly rose and wept ; 50  
 Then gathering up a thousand spears,  
 He swept across the field of Mars,  
 Then bowed farewell, and walked behind the stars,  
 From the land where we were dreaming !

We looked again, another figure still 55  
Gave hope, and nerved each individual will ;  
Erect he stood, as clothed with power ;  
Self-poised, he seemed to rule the hour,  
With firm, majestic sway — of strength a tower,  
In the land where we were dreaming ! 60

As while great Jove, in bronze, a warder god,  
Gazed eastward from the Forum where he stood,  
Rome felt herself secure and free —  
So Richmond, we, on guard for thee,  
Beheld a bronzed hero, god-like Lee, 65  
In the land where we were dreaming !

As wakes the soldier when the alarum calls —  
As wakes the mother when her infant falls —  
As starts the traveler when around  
His sleepy couch the fire-bells sound — 70  
So woke our nation with a single bound —  
In the land where we were dreaming !

Woe ! woe ! is us, the startled mothers cried,  
While we have slept, our noble sons have died !  
Woe ! woe ! is us, how strange and sad, 75  
That all our glorious visions fled,  
Have left us nothing real but our dead,  
In the land where we were dreaming !

And are they really dead, our martyred slain ?  
No, Dreamers ! Morn shall bid them rise again ; 80  
From every plain — from every height —  
On which they seemed to die for right,  
Their gallant spirits shall renew the fight,  
In the land where we were dreaming !

Unconquered still in soul, tho' now o'er-run, 85  
In peace, in war, the battle's just begun !  
Once this Thyestean banquet o'er,  
Grown strong the few who bide the hour,  
Shall rise and hurl its drunken guests from power,  
In the land where we were dreaming ! 90

THE MAGNOLIA<sup>1</sup>

MARY McNEIL FENOLLOSA

O FLOWERS of the garden, of skilled and human care,  
Sweet heliotrope, and violet, and orchid frail and fair,  
Pour out your love to happier hearts ; the woodland  
flowers for me,  
The pallid, creamy blossoms of the dark magnolia tree !

I close my eyes ; my soul lifts up to float with their per-  
fume, 5  
And dull the body lying in this narrow city room.  
Again I am a happy child. I leap and joy to see  
The great curved petals wavering slip from out the  
gleaming tree.

As holy grail, or pearl inwrought, or carven ivory cup,  
They stand on bronze and emerald bough, and brim  
their sweetness up ; 10  
And underneath a happy child ! — O days that used to  
be !  
In distant land, the flowers still stand upon the dark  
green tree.

<sup>1</sup> From *Out of The Nest*, by Mary McNeil Fenollosa, copyright, 1899, by Little, Brown and Company.



## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

**BONER, JOHN HENRY** :— born in Salem, North Carolina, in 1845; of Moravian lineage; became printer and writer; had government employment in Washington; died 1903. Author of numerous poems.

**CAWEIN, MADISON** :— born in Louisville, Kentucky, in 1865; lived for a time in Indiana; studied in Louisville High School; engaged in business but was a constant composer; lives in Louisville and is devoted to letters. Author of numerous volumes collected in a uniform edition by Bobbs-Merrill Company.

**COOKE, PHILIP PENDLETON** :— born in Virginia in 1816; educated at Princeton, where he began writing poetry; contributor to *Southern Literary Messenger*; died in 1850. Author of *Froissart Ballads and Other Poems*, etc.

**DANDRIDGE, DANSKE** :— born in Denmark in 1869, where her father, Henry Bedinger, was United States Minister; lived in West Virginia since her marriage; contributor to magazines. Author of *Joy and Other Poems*, etc.

**DAVIS, MARY EVELYN MOORE** :— born in Alabama in 1852; went with her father to Texas; began publishing in 1870; married in 1874; moved to New Orleans; became a social leader and her home a center of literary influence; died 1909. Author of many volumes of stories and poems.

**DICKSON, SAMUEL HENRY** :— born in Charleston, South Carolina, in 1798; eminent practitioner of medicine; professor in New York and Philadelphia medical schools; died in Philadelphia, 1872. Author of medical books, negro studies, and poems.

**EASTER, MARGUERITE E.** :— born in Virginia in 1839; her parents, Daniel Rutter and wife, were of Maryland; married in 1859; contributed to numerous magazines; death of her son in 1888 re-created her poetic spirit; died in Baltimore in 1894. Author of *Clytie and Other Poems*, etc.

**EDWARDS, HARRY STILLWELL** : — born in Macon, Georgia, in 1855; practiced law; connected with *Macon Telegraph*; began writing for magazines; at present postmaster in Macon. Author of short stories, several novels, and a few poems.

**FENOLLOSA, MARY MCNEILL** : — born in Alabama in 18—; her second marriage took her to Japan, after which she began writing; in 1895 married Professor Fenollosa, a distinguished Orientalist; lives in Alabama. Author of several novels, several volumes of poetry, etc.

**HAYNE, PAUL HAMILTON** : — born in Charleston, South Carolina, in 1830; educated at Charleston College; editor; impoverished by Civil War; moved to "Copse Hill," Georgia; died there in 1886. Author of numerous magazine articles, several biographies, *Legends and Lyrics*, and other volumes of poems.

**HAYNE, WILLIAM H.** : — born in Charleston, South Carolina, in 1856; educated mainly at "Copse Hill," Georgia; has devoted himself mainly to literature; lives at Augusta, Georgia. Author of *Sylvan Lyrics*, etc.

**HENDERSON, PHILO** : — born about 1822; editor of paper in Charlotte, North Carolina; died in 1852.

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**LUCAS, DANIEL BEDINGER** : — born in Virginia in 1836; educated at the University of Virginia; studied Law; served the Confederacy; became Judge of Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia; died 1909. Author of addresses, several volumes of poetry, etc. Poems edited by his daughter.

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**TIMROD, HENRY** :— born in Charleston, South Carolina, in 1829; attended University of Georgia; tried law, took to journalism; contributed many poems to Southern magazines; died in Columbia, South Carolina, in 1867. Poems edited first by Paul Hamilton Hayne; later edition by J. P. Kennedy Bryan.

**TUCKER, ST. GEORGE** :— born in Bermuda, in 1752; came to Virginia early in life; married the mother of John Randolph of Roanoke; became a prominent jurist, professor of law in William and Mary College; author of *Days of My Youth and Other Poems, Commentary on the Constitution, Dissertation on Slavery*, etc.; died in 1828.

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